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JENNIFER FRIESEN/  
FOR METRO

**Green plaza reopens above downtown fire station metroNEWS**

# Wildrose says officials *did* know of clause

CARBON LEVY

## Opposition questions NDP's ignorance of key energy stipulation



**Jeremy Simes**  
For Metro | Calgary

Evidence suggests the NDP government may have known about the "Enron clause" prior to March 2016, which is when Deputy Premier Sarah Hoffman claims the government learned of the regulation.

On Tuesday, Hoffman admitted the government wasn't aware of the clause — which lets power companies offload money-losing contracts if government actions make them unprofitable — when increasing the carbon levy for emitters.

The clause has been on the Queen's Printer since it was legislated by the for-

mer PC government in 2001.

Premier Rachel Notley referenced it in early March and, according to Wildrose electricity and renewables critic Don MacIntyre, a September briefing note indicates Balancing Pool officials must have known about the clause when reviewing levy hikes on power purchasing agreements (PPAs).

"We have to take their word the minister didn't know," he said. "But of course department officials knew; they've been on these files since day one. I find it odd they didn't tell the minister until March."

The government couldn't confirm or deny Energy Department officials knew about the clause prior to informing the government about them in March.

Hoffman suggested the NDP would've remained firm on the levy increases as the note said officials believe levy increases to PPAs wouldn't cause them to terminate.

However, Enmax, TransCanada, AltaGas and Capital Power have announced they plan to terminate their PPAs largely over the increase to the carbon levy.



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## Pave Cecil, put up a parking lot

### EAST VILLAGE

### Land to be monetized as developer is sought out



**Helen Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

It's not paved paradise, but the old Cecil Hotel lot will soon be turned into a parking lot — for now.

The parcel of land is nestled inside the East Village where the former hotel stood since 1912. Over time it built a reputation for hosting Calgary's rough and tumble population. It was closed in 2008 by a city order after it was deemed a "threat to the public." Then



**A blueprint of the proposed parking lot on the former hotel site.** COURTESY CMLC

it was bought by the city and acquired by CMLC in 2015.

"The Cecil could not be salvaged, it was becoming a dangerous site," said Calgary Municipal Land Corporation spokeswoman Susan Veres. "Something needed to be done with the site."

The CMLC-owned property was deemed beyond repair and demolished in December, after removal of the iconic Cecil Hotel sign. Now, the 43,000-square-foot lot will be paved and monetized as parking space while the right developer is sought out.

"We'll monetize that land and sell it to a capable developer, but not for some time," said Veres.

Coun. Druh Farrell said it's not something she wants to see, but if it must go ahead she wants the lot to have a term attached.

"Surface parking lots...they deaden the core, they're generally brutal public spaces, they're scary to walk by, there's very little activity, they don't bring in vibrancy," said Farrell. "They should be considered temporary."

Veres said the East Village desperately needs parking as new retailers open their doors and three projects — all major ground-breakings slated for 2016 — are being constructed.

They can't sell the land immediately; it's not the right time according to Veres.

"The market is soft right now. We don't need to sell it to a developer yet, so we have more of a need given all the retail that's come in the East Village, for parking on

that surface," Veres said.

She added this is a way to use the land temporarily until a time when they decide to sell it.

"We're choosing to activate it with a parkade to be managed by Calgary Parking Authority, so it's all of their infra-

structure, management and operation," said Veres. "We profit share in revenues that are captured through parking on the lot."

Once permits are issued, the parking lot construction will be "imminent" and likely completed by the end of summer.

**"The market is soft right now. We don't need to sell it to a developer yet."**

Susan Veres



ERN LOBBY

**The former Cecil Hotel before its demolition.** JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO; ROAD SIGN: ISTOCK

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# Notley competence put into question, says expert

## POLITICS

### 'Enron clause' incident will be hard to overcome: Prof



**Jeremy Simes**  
For Metro | Calgary

The fiasco over the "Enron clause," the centrepiece of a recently-launched NDP government lawsuit, is the first time Rachel Notley's competence as a leader has been truly questioned, according to a Mount Royal University (MRU) political scientist.

Deputy Premier Sarah Hoffman admitted on Wednesday that the energy minister wasn't made aware of the regulation until March 2016, but evidence suggests the government may have known about the clause before that.

Despite the energy minister not being aware, the clause has been publicly on the books since the former PCs changed the legislation in 2001.

Premier Rachel Notley also referred to the regulation as a "loophole the size of seven different large trucks," recorded on the March 10, 2016 Hansard.

Lori Williams, a political scientist and professor at MRU, said the incident raises questions about co-ordination and competence.

"It's going to be a tough one for her to overcome," Williams said. "We've had a premier, for the most part, that's seemed quite bright and entrepreneurial, but now we have someone who is showing that dissonance or contradiction."

Official Opposition Wildrose

also released a September briefing note that showed Balancing Pool officials knew the ramifications of increasing the carbon levy to power purchasing agreements.

"Either the Deputy Premier isn't being told all the facts, or is willfully hiding the truth when it comes to the timeline of when the NDP government knew about the impact breaking PPAs would have," said electricity and renewables critic Don MacIntyre. "Either way, these points do not justify legal action."

But Hoffman defended the government's claim that they were unaware, emphasizing the September briefing note made no mention of the Enron clause specifically.

"I feel like the Wildrose keeps getting this wrong," she said. "They want the government to let profitable electricity companies, which have made about \$10 billion in profits, offload what could be \$2 billion in losses to the public all because of a bad deal."

But Mayor Naheed Nenshi again slammed the government for the lawsuit on Wednesday, saying the city-owned Enmax has abided by the law.

"It's particularly weird because I happen to know that they were warned repeatedly that this may trigger the very thing that they're suing themselves about right now, and in fact, had they done the climate change policy just slightly differently they would have been able to avoid this trigger," Nenshi said.

"Enmax is owned by the rate payers, so if Enmax has to take a penalty, it's the City of Calgary citizens that will end up having to pay for that. So even their logic doesn't make any sense."



Deputy Premier Sarah Hoffman says the province is fighting the regulation so taxpayers aren't on the hook for \$2 billion. COURTESY GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA

## THE EVIDENCE

### Balancing Pool briefing note

A September briefing note by the board of the Balancing Pool — a government agency that deals with PPA transfers — shows officials were reviewing agreements that were affected by the government's carbon levy hike. Officials didn't specifically note the Enron clause, but were aware of termination ramifications for PPAs. The document did note officials believed no PPAs would terminate with the increase.

### Rachel Notley during a March legislature sitting

On March 10, Rachel Notley referred to the clause as a "loophole" that was "negotiated by the previous government," after the Wildrose criticized the government for allegedly causing TransCanada to terminate its PPA. Despite the reference, legal action wasn't taken until July.

### The Alberta Leaders Debate

During the Alberta Leaders Debate in April 2015, former Premier Jim Prentice questioned Notley on how the government would pay billions of dollars in damages if the coal-fired power plants were closed early. In response, Notley said those damages would be owed, adding the phasing out of coal would give the government social license.

### Queen's Printer

The "Enron clause," also known as 4.3(j) in legislation, has been on the books since the former PC government overhauled the electricity industry in 2001. The government has called it "secret," when in fact it's been there since they took power.

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# Human rights laws not enough: Expert

## SEXUAL DIVERSITY

### Bathroom incident shows more education is required



**Helen Pike**  
Metro | Calgary

They've made their apologies, taken down the offending sign and added a new one.

But Dr. Kris Wells, director of the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services at the University of Alberta, said this story is just a symptom of the larger issue at hand: without education, adding gender expression and gender identity as a protected human right won't change how these groups are treated.

"We can change legislation, but without supportive education, do things end up really changing?" Wells asked. He noted in this case, the bar, in their statement, were aware of Bill 7, which was enacted in Dec. 2015. "Did we really give the human rights commission



**River Rising, the trans woman who was denied entry into a Medicine Hat Bar Bathroom. In the second image, a new sign hangs at the bathroom.** CONTRIBUTED/ FACEBOOK

resources to get out and help to educate businesses and organization what that change in legislation actually means?"

On Tuesday, a viral Facebook post about a sign and trans woman's experience at

Corona Tavern, a Medicine Hat bar, prompted an apology from the establishment.

Management at the tavern cited complaints from patrons who felt threatened by men pretending to be trans and en-

tering the female washroom. Their response to concerns was to put a sign in washrooms urging customers to use the bathroom that matched their "birth gender."

They've since removed that

sign and put a "Gender Neutral Washroom" sign in front of one bathroom, maintaining the ladies bathroom.

Wells added the "myth of the bathroom predator" is just that, a myth.

"The greatest risk in the bathrooms are not the people, they're threats to violence of transgender people themselves," Wells said. "Bathrooms can be incredibly dangerous spaces regardless of how you identify or how you are perceived and it's not those trans individuals who need to change their behaviour, it's those with the discriminatory attitudes that need to be educated and change."

According to Susan Coombes, the manager of education and engagement for the Alberta Human Rights Commission, the process from complaint to resolution can vary from case to case.

"Just because the organization said, 'Oops we made a mistake,' the discrimination is alleged to have happened. It's not a get out of jail free card. The situation would be evaluated based on what the circumstances of the case are."

Coombes said if the complaint meets criteria and is deemed as discrimination it is sent to the respondent, who would read the complaint and reply. This complaint can be settled at any point in the process, but is a lengthy endeavour.



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A Chinese lion dance was performed by members of the Calgary Tai Chi and Martial Arts College to celebrate the anniversary. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

# Celebrating bridge's centennial

CENTRE STREET BRIDGE

**Landmark built in 1916 to connect north to Chinatown**



**Jennifer Friesen**  
For Metro | Calgary

Amidst the beating drums for a Chinese lion dance, a melodic blessing sung by a Blackfoot Elder and the spoken history of the Calgary landmark, a crowd gathered in Chinatown on Wednesday to wish the Centre Street Bridge a happy birthday.

The city's second-oldest bridge, flagged with four lion statues, was built in 1916 to replace the MacArthur Bridge after it was destroyed in the flood of June 1915.

Built for \$375,000, the bridge crosses the Bow River, connecting Chinatown to the north end of the city.

"Just as with anyone else in Calgary, I can't imagine the city without it," said Harry Sanders, a local historian. "This bridge was conceived, not only to be

functional, but to be a thing of beauty."

The four lion statues may be the most recognizable features of the bridge, according to Sanders, and he added that their addition was somewhat of a fluke.

An alderman was driving down Centre Street when he noticed a stone lion on a lawn. When he knocked on the door he realized it was owned by James L. Thompson, a sculptor who also worked at the city. It was then Thompson designed and sculpted the lions in the fashion of those in Trafalgar Square in England.

"Back when it was first built, people said it was too expensive, people said, 'Why is it so beautiful, why can't you build something more utilitarian?'" said Mayor Naheed Nenshi.

"And the people of 100 years ago said, 'Look, there are certain pieces of

public infrastructure that it's important to make beautiful, that it's important to make memorable, because it becomes symbols of our city ... and this bridge in particular, as the second-oldest bridge in the city, has a very special place in the hearts of Calgarians."

**This bridge was conceived, not only to be functional, but to be a thing of beauty.**

Harry Sanders

## HEALTH

# Zika virus cases jump to 15, says province

Alberta Health says there have been 15 cases of the Zika virus in the province this year, a jump of 12 cases from three infections that were reported in February 2016.

Alberta Health said all 15 cases were acquired by travel and that the province's mosquitoes don't transmit the Zika virus because it can't survive in Canada's climate.

"There is a risk to Albertans of contracting Zika virus if they travel to countries where

Zika virus circulates," Alberta Health said on its webpage. "There is a low risk to Albertans of contracting Zika virus through sexual contact with either an infected person in an area where Zika virus is circulating or an infected person returning from an area where Zika virus is circulating."

Alberta Health said the virus is an infection that spreads through humans when they are bitten by an infected mosquito. In rare cases, the virus

can be transmitted through sexual contact with an infected person and from blood transfusions.

It can also spread to unborn babies of pregnant women and cause a rare but serious condition where newborns are born with small heads and underdeveloped brains.

Alberta Health advises pregnant women to avoid travelling to areas where the Zika virus is circulating.

"Pregnant travellers re-

turning from an area with Zika virus transmission should consult with their health care provider, especially if they have acute signs and symptoms similar to Zika virus," Alberta Health said.

"About 20 per cent of people who are infected will experience fever, headache, conjunctivitis (pink eye), rash, and joint and muscle pain for a few days. Most people who are infected will not have any symptoms." JEREMY SIMES/FOR METRO

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# Police aim to formalize mental health strategy

## POLICE

**Initiatives are focus of new committee: Deputy chief**



**Lucie Edwardson**  
Metro | Calgary

The Calgary Police Service say they're working on their very own mental health strategy — and have been for some time — following the release of the Vancouver Police Department's strategy earlier this month.

The strategy put out in Vancouver is the second of its kind in the country, alongside the Ontario Provincial Police, and focuses on how to de-escalate situations involving people with mental health and addiction issues.

Deputy Chief Bob Ritchie sat down with Metro Wednesday to discuss the work being done by CPS and the hurdles they must overcome to make this strategy a reality in Calgary.

"There are a lot of things within our day-to-day policing environment, current initiatives and strategies we may or may not have, and what Vancouver has done is put it all together in a formal document and is guiding their activities from that point forward," he said.

Ritchie said he gives "kudos" to the VPD for taking that step and "would support our police service



**Deputy Chief Bob Ritchie** said the CPS Mental Health Advisory Committee is working on a formal strategy that will act as a guiding principal for dealing with individuals struggling with mental health and addiction issues. LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO

doing something similar." One initiative that CPS has already started, he said, is the creation of their own Mental Health Advisory Committee.

"It's a two-pronged approach to mental health; so the first being support for our officers and civilian employees," he said. "The second prong is an external facing and that's what we're looking

at now in terms of what mental health initiatives we have or what other agencies have and benchmark what are some of the things we could improve on."

Furthermore, Ritchie said formalizing a strategy would help CPS better deal with Form 10 apprehensions under the Mental Health Act, which allows police to take an emotionally distressed

person who poses a risk to themselves or others into custody.

Although CPS saw a dip in the rate of Form 10 apprehensions last year, they said there has ultimately been a consistent increase over the last five years.

In 2016, Form 10s have averaged 100 per week, or 14 a day, meaning roughly one in five calls result from a mental health con-

cern and more than half from a suicide attempt.

"At the end of the day we want to be able to say we have a strategy to manage mental health concerns in our community," he said. "There has been work that has taken place and one of our committee's priorities is to formalize that strategy to use as a guiding principal for what we do."

## WORK CULTURE

### No plans for survey

The Calgary Police Association said they haven't conducted a members survey in roughly 10 years, and don't see a need to do so now.

This comes in the wake of the Edmonton Police Association president calling for an independent investigation after a survey showed roughly 80 per cent of officers feel they work in a "culture of fear."

But vice-president of administration for the CPA, Mike Lamore, said this has "nothing to do with Calgary," and there are no plans to do a survey for CPS members at this time.

"We have done them in the past when there has been an issue," he said. "Right now there are no issues I know of that would drive a member survey."

Lamore said the CPA doesn't conduct a survey annually. He said they only do one when significant leadership concerns are presented to them.

"We're an association and we're elected so we understand what's going on there," he said. "The only time we would do a survey is when there are major issues in regard to leadership and we don't have those issues right now."

When asked if there was any benefit to conducting surveys Lamore said it wasn't a "bad idea."

"It wouldn't be a bad idea to do it every now and again just to see how our members feel about their job and the expectations, what's happening in the service and what's happening in Calgary," he said.

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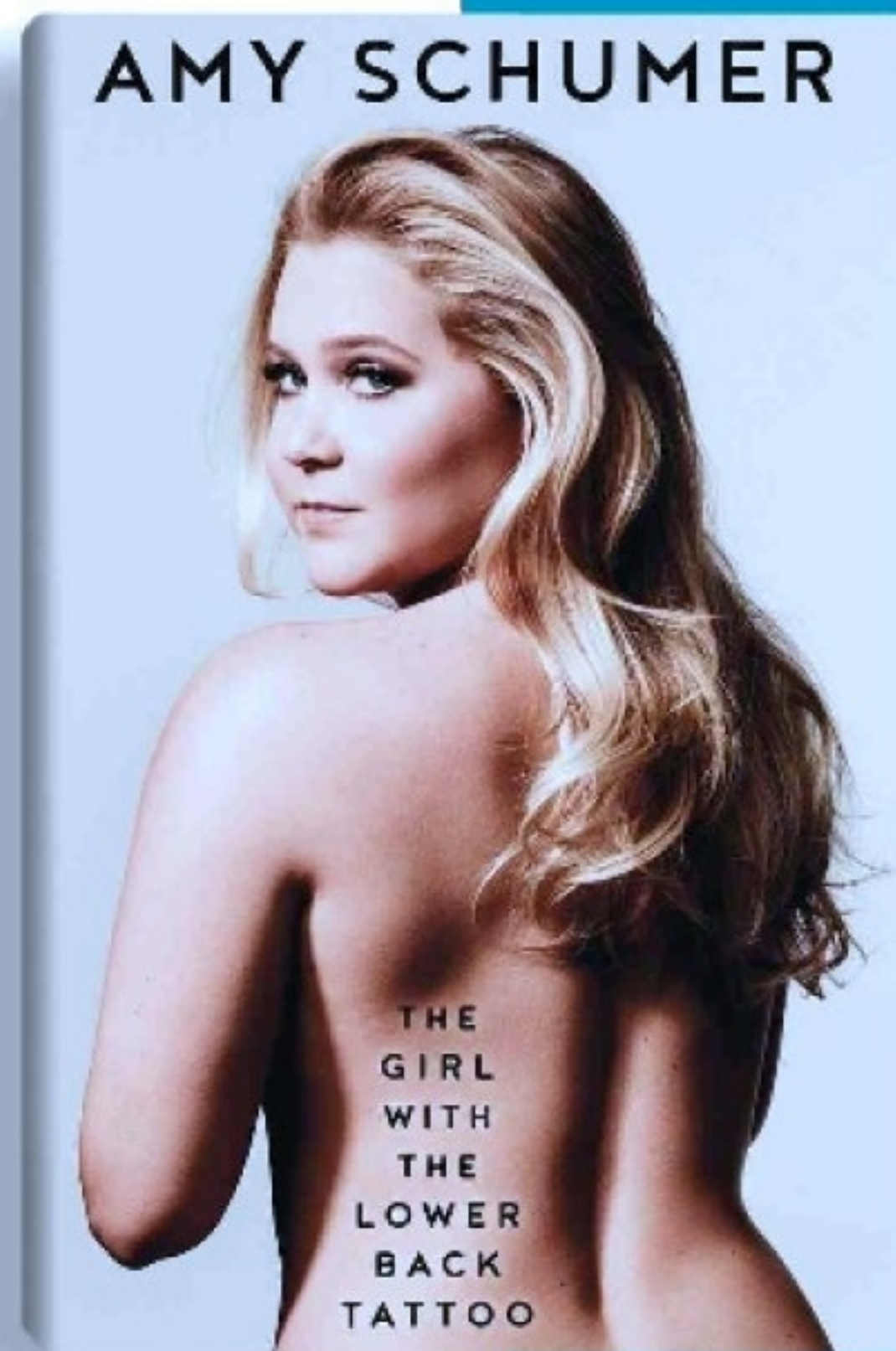
I've been keeping journals since I was thirteen years old and it was rewarding, painful, and highly cringe-inducing to go through them in preparation to write my book. But I hope it was worth it. I hope you enjoy laughing and crying along with me as you read. To be honest with you, I don't understand why you bother reading in Canada. The roster of Canadian actors and comics is an embarrassment of riches, and if I lived in the country that produced John Candy, Catherine O'Hara, Phil Hartman, Mike Myers, and Leslie Nielsen, I sure as hell wouldn't be focusing on books. Go watch a Seth Rogen movie! Brag to every American you know that Samantha Bee is Canadian. You guys get to claim her! She is brilliant and funny and she's YOURS!

I hope you don't mind me telling you that I have drank more Labatt beers in my life than I care to admit. But not while I was writing this book. I was dead sober for all of that. I promise. But I don't mind if you crack one open right now because I am truly honoured that you are willing to spend some time with me by reading my book. Again, I don't really understand why you would rather read thousands of tiny words on a page when you could be watching anything Norm Macdonald has ever done. Or Ryan Reynolds. RYAN REYNOLDS! Now you're just mocking me, Canada.

Enjoy the book. I'm trying really hard to show you a good time. But that's some stiff competition.

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# 'He was very popular in the neighbourhood'

## TRAGEDY

### Behzad Ahmad, 11, was playing when he fell into park river



**Jeremy Simes**  
For Metro | Calgary

Behzad Ahmad was a studious 11-year-old old who had a particular interest in dinosaurs, according to a family spokesman.

Parks Canada spokeswoman Lisa Paulson said on Wednesday the 11-year-old and his nine-year-old brother were jumping on rocks at the edge of the fast-moving river on the evening of July 22 when both youngsters tumbled into the water.

She said a 14-year-old rela-

tive was able to grab the younger child, but the older boy was swept away by the powerful current.

On Wednesday, Sultan Mahmood was translating for Ahmad's father, who said the boy was always ready to help community members.

"He was very popular in the neighbourhood," Mahmood said. "His teachers said he was an intelligent, good student. He loved all the dinosaur history.

He would draw them and was pretty good at it."

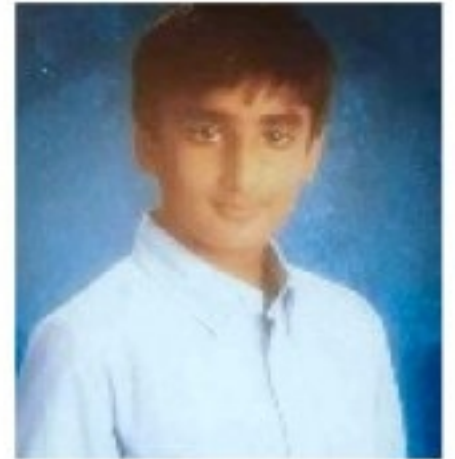
Paulson says frantic family members were able to track the child for a short distance, while quick-thinking bystanders formed a watch on bridges and embankments downstream in hopes of spotting him, but he was not seen again.

Paulson was the incident commander during the search that continued until Tuesday morning, when the boy's body

was found 13 kilometres downstream at the junction of the Yoho and Kicking Horse rivers.

She says the family has travelled to Golden to identify the body and the coroners' service is now handling the case.

Mahmood commended the RCMP and rescuers for searching for the boy. "We are very thankful for their help in this hard time," he said. "It's extremely sad, but we now have closure."



**Behzad Ahmad** PROVIDED

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## DOPING RESEARCH

### Alberta duo out to beat the cheats



**Alex Boyd**  
Metro | Edmonton

As the number of athletes banned from the Rio Olympics for doping continues to climb, the hunt for better tests for performance enhancing drugs is on.

Fred West and James Harynuk, two University of Alberta chemists, have joined the race, thanks to new funding from the Partnership for Clean Competition, a non-profit founded by, among others, the U.S. Olympic Committee and the National Football League. But their research has a twist: They want to find a method to test for banned substances — before they even know what the substance is.

Let us explain. The problem with a lot of testing, according to Harynuk, is that illegal labs are churning out a steady flow of new substances, leaving drug screeners playing catch-up.

"Usually, by the time the substance is banned, the athletes have moved on to newer, even harder to trace substances," he said.

Put simply, their plan is based on the idea that steroids tend to look somewhat similar, and if you know a lot about the known ones, you'll be better at pre-

dicting the ones you haven't seen yet.

First, West will create a whole bunch of steroids and modified steroids to create a training library of samples. Then, Harynuk will use all the new data gathered from that library to create a predictive model for anticipating what new, unknown steroids could look like. Harynuk uses a needle in a haystack as an analogy.

"Currently, in most doping control labs, they know exactly what they're looking for," he said, meaning the list of known steroids. "So the whole analytical method is designed to throw out everything except for those specific molecules."

That means any unrecognized steroids get thrown out with the bathwater. "What we're going to do now is try to imagine this haystack from a few different angles and then mine through this mountain of data looking for suspicious signals, and then see if the suspicious signal is consistent with a possible structure of a steroid."

The new funding is about \$400,000 over two years, with the possibility of extension for a third. Harynuk and West were the only Canadian team to get it.

If their plan works, Harynuk hopes this could help close the door on designer steroids.



**Fred West and James Harynuk** got funding from the Partnership for Clean Competition for their anti-doping research. CONTRIBUTED



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# 14 Street overpass en route

## INFRASTRUCTURE

### Haysboro walkway to get pedestrians to BRT station



**Brodie Thomas**  
Metro | Calgary

Amid the contentious Southwest Transitway debate, a Calgary councillor managed to slip in an extra bit of needed infrastructure related to the project.

On Monday, Coun. Brian Pincott put forward a motion asking the city to begin developing an overhead pedestrian crossing to safely move people across 14 Street at 90 Avenue SW.

The overpass would make it easier for people in Haysboro to access services at Glenmore Landing, as well as the Calgary Jewish Community Centre.

It will also get people safely to the planned SW BRT station at Glenmore Landing.



**Construction on a pedestrian overpass for 14 Street SW at 90 Avenue SW should happen when construction gets underway on the BRT in 2018.** JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

"We've been talking about this for a while. It's something very consistently raised by residents in the area," said Pincott. "We were ready to get that approved once we had the BRT approved."

He said now is the time to

do it, since the city will eventually be doing extensive work in the area anyway.

"The key is — we take advantage of the construction that's going on and also integrate it into the BRT — so it's perfect."

He said doing multiple projects in conjunction will save taxpayers money.

Pincott noted it's a difficult crossing for pedestrians across six lanes at the moment. Something echoed by the past president of the Haysboro Com-

**"The key is — we take advantage of the construction that's going on."**

Coun. Brian Pincott

munity Association, Maxine Morrison.

"Going from six lanes to eight — although it's not adding traffic — it's already tough enough for seniors and kids to cross," said Morrison.

She said the community association has been pushing for this for years, and she's happy to see it finally coming together.

Pincott said the exact cost of the overpass has yet to be determined, although administration should report back in November's budget with an estimated cost and a plan on how to pay for it.

He said pedestrian overpasses generally cost about \$6 million, and added it will be fully accessible, unlike some of the older overpasses.

## WILDLIFE

### New zoo marmots born

The Calgary Zoo's Devonian Wildlife Conservation Centre (DWCC) has new inhabitants with four Vancouver Island Marmot pups born this past spring.

The marmots are listed as critically endangered on the IUCN Red List and these newest addition will play a vital role in the survival of the species, according to the Calgary Zoo.

"The Vancouver Island Marmot is a beautiful and important part of our Canadian heritage, as they are found nowhere else in the world," said Axel Moehrenschrager, director of conservation & science at Calgary Zoo, in a prepared release.

"Without reintroduction, breeding and science, this species would now be extinct. We are proud to breed and release marmots into the wild every year to continue dramatic population recovery."

The four pups began to emerge from their dens as 13 other marmots, also born at the zoo's DWCC in 2015, were being released to the wild in June and July to new locations on Vancouver Island. METRO



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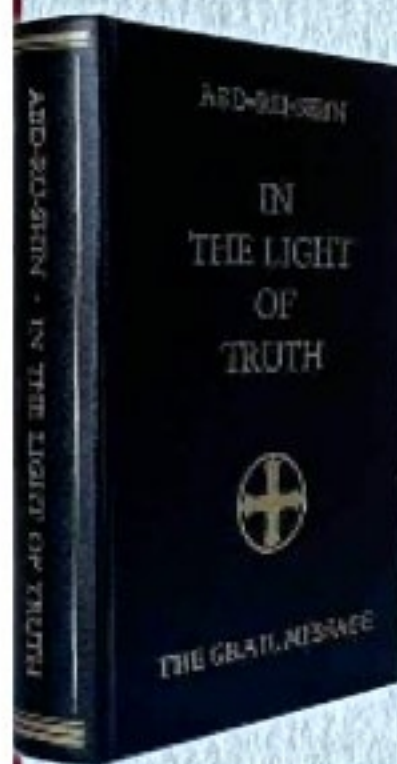
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The rooftop green space in downtown Calgary has views of the Bow building and Calgary Tower.  
 JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

# Rooftop green space reopens

## PLAZA

### Fire station's roof renovated after it fell into disrepair



Jennifer Friesen  
For Metro

Typically, a roof falling into disrepair is never good news.

But, in the case of downtown Calgary's Fire Station 1, it turned out to be a blessing in disguise.

Thanks to some renovations, much-needed repairs and a green thumb, the City of Calgary reopened the Rooftop Plaza green space on Wednesday.

"We wanted to bring in something that benefits the whole community," said Fire Chief Steve Dongworth.

"Together we've created

an attractive and welcoming space, where the people who live in, work in and visit the downtown core can enjoy. They can enjoy lunch, catch a little sunshine or just escape the noise of the city for a few minutes."

Neighbouring the Baker House and Telus building, the plaza can be accessed through the Plus-15 bridge from the Telus office building to the Delta Calgary Downtown. Funding for the project was provided by the City's Community Investment Fund.

The park was completed through a partnership with Delta Downtown Calgary, with which the fire station shares a roof, and offers a quiet green space for residents, workers and visitors.

The space has views of the Bow Building and Calgary

Tower.

Jason Clark, manager of Delta Calgary Downtown, said he anticipates guests using the new terrace for weddings.

Coun. Druh Farrell joined the opening ceremony on Wednesday, and said that green spaces downtown don't only benefit the community, but

the environment as well. She added that downtown cores can be "deserts" for pollinators.

"(Green spaces are) heat sinks, they cool down the neighbouring buildings," she said.

"They provide diversity for pollinators and for birds and they provide an oasis from a really busy downtown ... We have hundreds and hundreds of orphaned spaces throughout our downtown, and if we just saw opportunities like this one and transformed them, we'd be the best city in the world."



**We have hundreds and hundreds of orphaned spaces.**  
 Coun. Druh Farrell

## MISSING COUPLE

# Second teenager's body found

RCMP say they are dealing with a second death as they investigate the disappearance of a young couple in northern Alberta last weekend.

Police say the body of Cory Grey, a 19-year-old woman, was discovered late Tuesday afternoon in a rural area outside High Prairie.

The discovery came after the body of Dylan Laboucan,

Grey's 17-year-old boyfriend, was found Monday night when police went to check a report of a sudden death on the Whitefish River First Nation.

Grey was reported missing late Sunday — a day after Laboucan was reported missing from the same general area.

Their bodies were found in different locations and police say Grey's disappearance

is linked to that of her boyfriend's.

Mounties also say it's too early to determine if either death was the result of criminal activity, or if they are linked.

Autopsies were scheduled for Wednesday in Edmonton.

Police say they are appealing to the public for information on the deaths.

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# Rosedale residents worried

## DEVELOPMENT

### City planning 16 affordable housing units at eight sites



**Brodie Thomas**  
Metro | Calgary

Many Rosedale residents are worried about plunging home values and a spike in crime as the city plans to build a handful of affordable housing units in the northwest community.

The city is looking to develop eight lots zoned RC-1, all against the sound wall along 16 Avenue NW.

The City of Calgary held consultations with residents and the local community association between March and May. The city's report detailing comments from citizens shows concerns about the type of people who might end up in affordable housing.

Bullet point concerns noted at the meetings included worries of crime from the clien-



A map from a City of Calgary report shows the eight proposed lots where affordable housing will be built in the community of Rosedale. COURTESY CITY OF CALGARY

tele, questions about Calgary Housing's screening program, and a suggestion to "sell lots to public and take revenues to build larger complex somewhere else."

One person wanted to know if the city was planning affordable housing in Mount Royal — another exclusive neighbourhood in the southwest.

Emails quoted in the report

also paint a picture of nimbyism.

"If this effects (sic) the value of our home, that drastically changes our retirement plans. Is that fair? We have been counting on the funds from the sale of our home as a big part of our retirement savings," read an email from one person.

"Rosedale is not a place for affordable housing," read an-

other email. "House owners in Rosedale paid millions to own their houses and take this as their pride."

Area Coun. Druh Farrell said the eight lots are actually a modest change to the community, compared to some of the changes other nearby communities accepted as part of the 16 Avenue Urban Corridor Project.

She said the city has a policy to encourage a diversity of housing — including affordable housing — in every community in the city.

"No community can say affordable housing doesn't belong here," said Farrell.

She said discrimination based on income is no different than discrimination based on race or religion.

## ALBERTA INNOVATES

### Biomass research gets cash

The Alberta government says it is providing nearly \$13 million in funding to help create new uses for agricultural and forestry products through the Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions agency.

The funding is to go to 61 researchers and companies looking to develop industrial bioproducts or technologies that use plant materials known as biomass.

The government says the program is meant to help diversify and strengthen the economy by adding value to the province's renewable resources.

Projects ranging from early research to commercial applications will receive funding, including ones developing smart windows, fire retardants and building materials.

Many of the proposals involve new ways of using the cellulose material found in plants that is processed into a crystal-like form known as cellulose nanocrystals.

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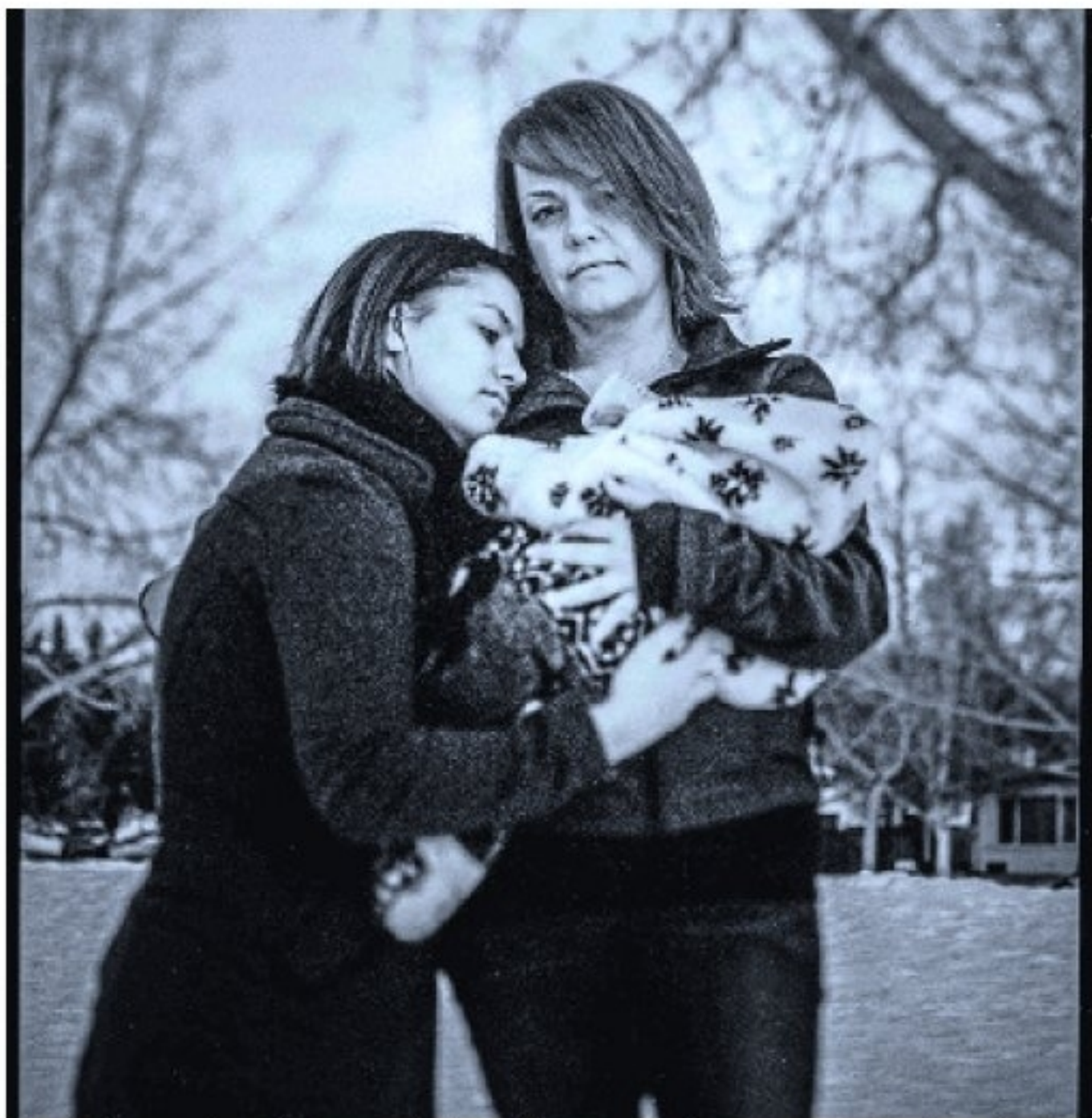
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One of photographer Mike Heywood's first subjects was Cindy, a young grandmother trying to help support her daughter and granddaughter. COURTESY MIKE HEYWOOD

# Economy's victims in black and white

PHOTO SERIES

## Photographer Mike Heywood documents Alberta's crisis



Aaron Chatha  
Metro | Calgary

Photographer Mike Heywood is documenting the current economic crisis the best way he knows how — in striking black and white.

In a project called Laid Off Alberta, Heywood talks to struggling Albertans about their experiences losing jobs and trying to make ends meet. He packages every write-up with a black-and-white portrait of his subject.

"What I was really struck by was the number of people not directly in oil and gas, but just affected by the economy in general — this was a broader



Mike Heywood said he was struck by how the slump affected more than just oil workers. COURTESY MIKE HEYWOOD

story than just slumping oil prices," he said.

The very first portrait Heywood did was of young grandmother Cindy.

Cindy moved from B.C. to help support her daughter and granddaughter. She found work managing appointments at a local medical office.

But as the economic slump took its toll, people were losing jobs, and losing benefit packages. That meant fewer appointments for the medical office — and eventually meant

they had to cut someone, due to lack of work.

Cindy was cut.

"She ended up moving back to B.C.," he said. "Her daughter's husband was doing poorly as a car salesman out here, so he ended up moving them all the way out to the east coast."

"Now that whole family that started out trying to be united has been spread across the country."

Heywood was inspired to take on the project after reading headlines about the crisis, and feeling compelled to document it. He began with an ad on Kijiji, and within 48 hours had more than a dozen responses. Not everyone who emailed him wanted their picture taken — but all wanted to share their story.

He chose black-and-white because it invokes the feeling of old-school journalism, and was one of the first photographic mediums he studied.

Heywood continues to add to his project online at [laidoffalberta.com](http://laidoffalberta.com).



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# Cree code-talker film nominated

ALBERTA SPIRIT AWARDS

## Gap in public record led to journey of discovery



**Aaron Chatha**  
Metro | Calgary

Using archive footage and what little facts and stories she could find, filmmaker Alexandra Lazarowich has pieced together the crucial contributions of Second World War Cree code talkers in her short film — which has now been nominated for an Alberta Spirit Award. “No research had really been done on the Canadian code talkers, especially from Alberta, so we took it upon ourselves to do that research while making the film,” Lazarowich explained.

She said most of the code talkers are no longer alive, so she had to talk to their families

to gain crucial information, along with what was available through the National Archives and the Smithsonian.

“There’s a huge gap in the sense that we couldn’t find any information,” she said. “I mean, there were a few news articles that had been done 10 years ago, 15 years ago, when Windtalkers came out, but there hadn’t been an in-depth project done on this.”

“In 1940, lots of people didn’t want to admit that they were native. Joining the army was a way they could get off the reserve, commit to their country and prove they were Canadian. It was a very complicated time.”

The code talkers were of vital help to the U.S. Air Force during the war.

The Alberta Spirit Awards are presented annually through the Calgary International Film Festival (CIFF), which focuses on the short film format. The winner, by jury selection, gets a cash prize of \$2,500.

“Alberta short film is not the

### DETAILS

The Spirit Awards take place on Sept. 25. For more information visit [calgaryfilm.com](http://calgaryfilm.com).

poor cousin of feature film,” said CIFF executive director Steve Schroeder. “There’s a huge audience for short film. They’re really entertaining and engaging — some of the best film making is in short film.”

Other nominees include Late Harvest, a coming-of-age prairie musical by Benjamin Musgrave. It’s a story about a boy on a farm who wants to be somewhere else.

Although the musical isn’t seen as often in the world of short film, it was a natural fit for Musgrave.

“I was interested in music before I was interested in film, and anything I’ve ever worked on film-wise always starts with songs and tonality; from that come the images,” he said.



Cree Code Talkers focuses specifically on Charles Tomkins, a code talker from Northern Alberta. COURTESY ALEXANDRA LAZAROWICH

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19

## Heartland kicks off film festival

FILM FEST

### New Alberta Showcase to highlight local content



**Aaron Chatha**  
Metro | Calgary

Calgary Heartland fans bray for joy — the season 10 premiere of the celebrated Canadian drama will take place exclusively at the Calgary International Film Festival.

It will be part of a new event CIFF is calling the Alberta Showcase, which will highlight provincial accomplishments in film and TV each year. The showcase contributes to the Alberta Scene program, which involves spotlighting Alberta content on and off screen.

"We know there's an incredible thirst from our own Calgary, Alberta and Canadian audiences to really know

what's happening here," said CIFF executive director Steve Schroeder.

"We thought, what better way to do the inaugural Showcase Alberta event than with Heartland. It's now the longest-running one-hour drama in Canadian history — it's watched by more than a million Canadians every episode."

The Heartland premiere will be screened at Flames Central on Oct. 1, following the hard-working, horse-loving Bartlett-Fleming clan.

Heartland is licensed in about 119 countries, and has had a direct economic impact on Alberta to the hoof print of \$200 million.

"We're thrilled to have been asked by the Calgary International Film Festival to be the recipients of this first inaugural showcase," said Heartland executive producer Tom Cox. "We're huge fans of this film festival, it's a world-class festival but it's also a phenomenal local resource."

Schroeder said Heartland



**CIFF executive director Steve Schroeder**  
AARON CHATHA/FOR METRO

premiering at CIFF is a celebration of Alberta content. Virtually all the cast and crew will be on hand to take part in a Q and A. One of the equine co-stars, Spartan, may even make an appearance on the red carpet — but unfortunately will be saying neigh to the Q and A.

For more information, visit [calgaryfilm.com](http://calgaryfilm.com).

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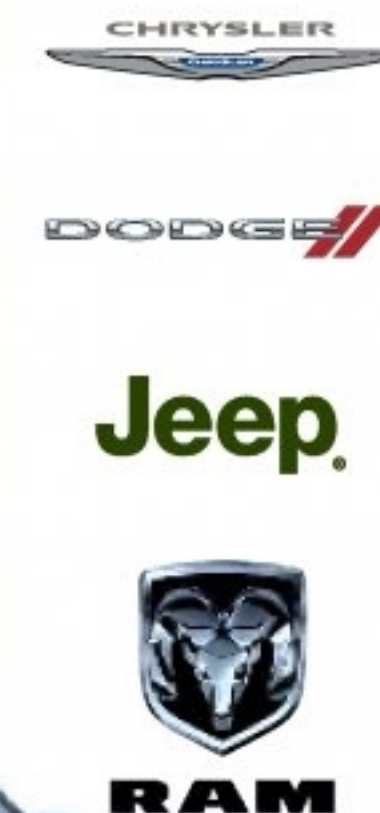
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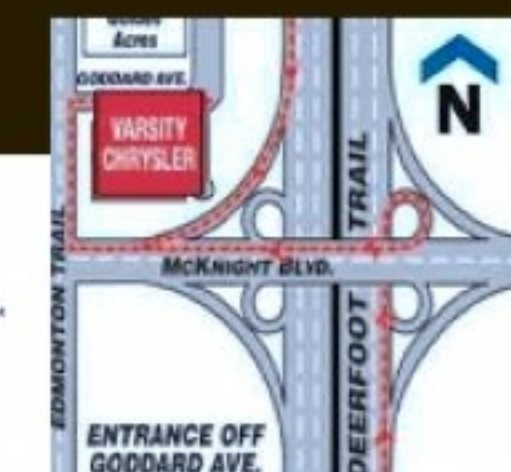


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Canada **metro** NEWS

## Montreal homes the greenest

ENVIRONMENT

### Emissions study puts Edmonton homes at the bottom of list

Homeowners in Edmonton generate, on average, almost four times the amount of greenhouse gas emissions as their counterparts in Montreal, according to a study released Wednesday by the University of British Columbia.

The study from the university's faculty of land and food systems estimated average household emissions in major cities across Canada between 1997 and 2009, based on factors such as weather, population density and the type of energy used for home heating and electricity.

Montreal homes were ranked the greenest — at 5.4 tonnes per year — largely because of the widespread use of clean hydro-electric power. The city's dense population also means motorists spend less time commuting and guzzling gas.

"If you live in Montreal, you can walk to your grocery store, you can walk your kids to school. You don't have to be driving everywhere, whereas in Edmon-

ton, unfortunately, you do," professor Sumeet Gulati, one of the report's two authors, said Wednesday.

Edmonton, followed closely by Calgary, was at the bottom of the pile at 20.7 tonnes per year, partly because of the use of coal-fired home energy and a spread-out population. The colder weather in the two biggest Alberta cities also means more energy is needed to heat homes.

Vancouver, despite its very mild temperatures, ranked second behind Montreal because of the West Coast city's use of natural gas in residential utilities. Natural gas is available throughout Montreal, but it is more expensive than hydro.

Winnipeg ranked third-lowest for emissions, ahead of fourth-place Toronto. Despite its bone-chilling winters, Winnipeg scored well because of its use of hydro power.

"The implications from our analysis are fairly straightforward," the report reads. "If we encourage high-density development or encourage development of low-carbon energy, households lower their greenhouse gas emissions."

The report found a positive trend in all cities — greenhouse gas emissions per household dropped by about 16 per cent over the 12-year study period as people, governments and utilities became more energy-conscious.

"I think it's actually very hopeful," Gulati said. "In Alberta, we're getting a new carbon tax and Alberta's committed to reducing coal in its electricity generation." THE CANADIAN PRESS

**16%**

The report found a positive trend in all cities — greenhouse gas emissions per household dropped by about 16 per cent over the 12-year study period.



### ROYALTY GUESS WHO'S COMING BACK TO CANADA?

Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge and Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, attend the presentations at the America's Cup World Series on July 24 in Portsmouth, England. William and Kate will pay a visit to Canada this fall — their second since getting married five years ago. They will visit British Columbia and Yukon later this year, Gov. Gen. David Johnston announced Wednesday.

The royal couple's first visit to Canada followed their 2011 wedding and took them to Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City, Charlottetown, Summerside, Yellowknife, Calgary and Slave Lake after that community was ravaged by a forest fire.

CHRIS JACKSON/GETTY IMAGES

OTTAWA

## Group calls for body cams after arrest death

**Haley Ritchie**  
Metro | Ottawa

The Canadian Association of Somali Lawyers released an open letter of support on Wednesday for the family of Abdirahman Abdi — the Somali-Canadian man who died following a violent arrest in Ottawa Sunday — asking for more transparency in SIU investigations and body cameras on all Ontario police officers.

"It's a national issue," said president Billeh Hamud.

The open letter makes three main demands of the Ontario government, all related to the Abdi case.

"The most important thing is transparency, and that's not being done right now," said Hamud, who wants to see SIU investigations opened up to the public. The SIU is Ontario's civilian oversight agency that investigates cases resulting in serious injury, death or sexual assault



Mourners at a memorial for Abdirahman Abdi on Tuesday.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

when police are involved.

The group also wants to see body cams — small cameras attached to officers while they work — on police across Ontario.

Hamud said the group also wants more training that addresses both race and mental health.

"There obviously is a pattern we've seen recently with Andrew Loku and Abdirahman with black men and in particu-

**“**  
**It's a national issue.**  
Billeh Hamud

lar those with mental illness or mental distress," he said. (The Toronto police officer who killed Loku was cleared by the SIU in March.)

While Hamud is Toronto-

based, he said CASL has members across the country. He said although he's glad the incident is getting widespread attention, the organization felt a responsibility to add more Somali voices to the discussion.

"We're not speaking on behalf of the family or even the community per se, but we are giving a perspective that needs to be talked about," he said. "On this issue there's a lot of people from other organizations — whether they're Muslim organizations or black organizations, which are great — but we also don't have a voice for the Somali community. We're in a unique situation because we're both."

The vast majority of Somalis are both Muslim and black, and Hamud said that can create extra pressure because both groups face different kinds of discrimination.

"You're dealing with two intersectionalities and it can be a challenge. Not only in respect to police violence but day-to-day life," he said.

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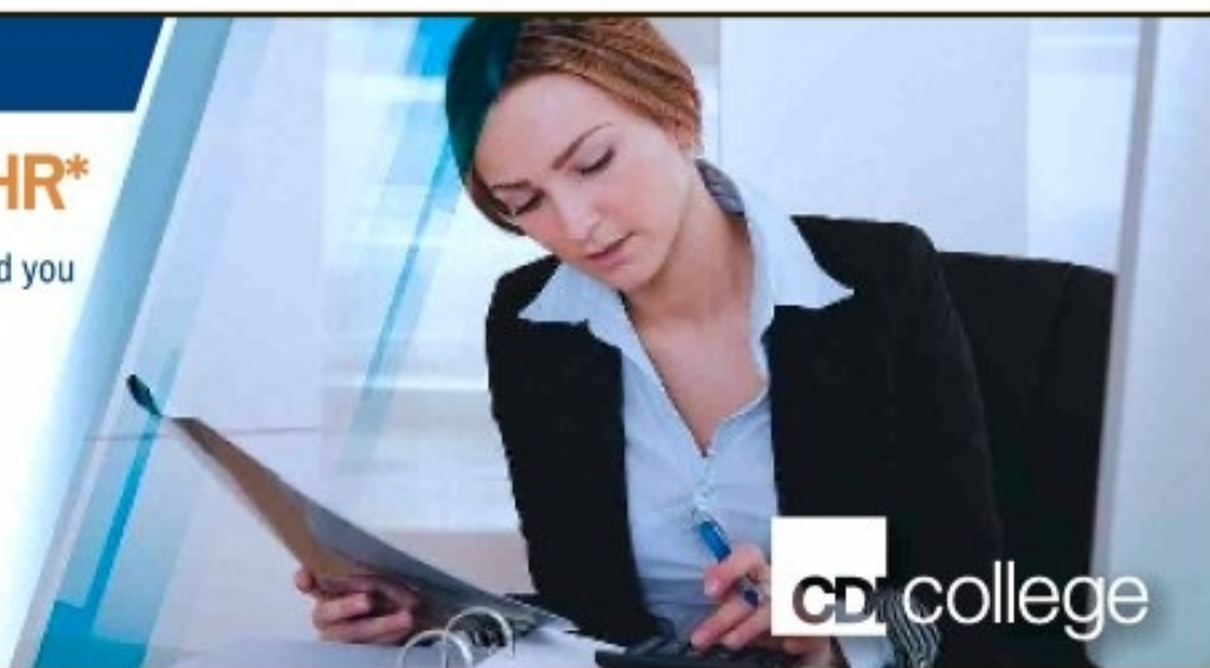
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# Premier's focus now on drinking water

## SASKATCHEWAN

### Leader says pipeline debate can wait after massive oil spill

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall says his top concern right now is making sure communities affected by an oil spill have enough drinking water and the wider debate over pipelines can wait.

"We need to make sure that drinking water is available, that potable water is available to communities affected by this. That's the first challenge," he said Wednesday in Regina.

"We'll get into the debate on pipelines versus rail or how we move oil across this country at a later date, but for now I think we should just set it aside."

A Husky Energy pipeline last week spilled between 200,000 and 250,000 litres of oil into the North Saskatchewan River.

The slick has already hit the cities of North Battleford, Prince Albert and Melfort, where water intakes have been shut down and measures to conserve drinking water have been put in place.

An incident report filed by Husky on Tuesday said a leak was discovered around 8 p.m. on July 20, a day earlier than initially believed. The company later clarified that it was alerted to "pressure anomalies" that



Crews work to clean up the oil spill on the North Saskatchewan River on July 22.

JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

evening, but it did not confirm there had been a leak until the next morning. It began shutting down the line around 6 a.m. last Thursday and informed the Saskatchewan government around 10:30 a.m.

Wall noted Husky has said it will review what happened and why there was a delay, but added the company's response to the spill itself appears to have followed protocol.

He also said he expects Husky to live up to its promise to cover the costs of cleanup — and more. Car washes and laundromats, for example, have had to shut down as communities conserve water.

**“It's an unfortunate time of the year to have a disaster like this happen.”**

Shelley Gordon

"We think of the big costs and the responsibility for those are on the company," said Wall.

He was planning to visit the affected area on Thursday. But local officials, saying they wanted to focus on their response efforts, asked the premier to wait until later.

Shelley Gordon, owner of the 6th Avenue Car Wash in Prince Albert, has not been able to run her business since Monday.

"It's been very unfortunate. Employees are without wages. We're without revenue to get through this tough time," she said.

On a normal summer day, cars would be lined up, she said.

"This is when car washes make their money. It makes up for the days in January and December when we're really quiet. It's an unfortunate time of the year to have a disaster like this happen."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## MILITARY

### Training targets 'high consequence' threats

The possibility of a terrorist attack using biological or chemical weapons makes the focus of a 15-day NATO training exercise at Canada's largest training base even more important, says a counterterrorism expert.

Even though the majority of recent attacks have involved explosives or armed gunmen, that doesn't mean a more serious threat isn't out there, says Chris Corry with Defence Research and Development Canada.

"Although people think it's a low-risk threat, it's a high consequence threat," the former Canadian infantry officer said Tuesday.

Exercise Precise Response 2016 at Canadian Forces Base Suffield in southeastern Alberta isn't about high-tech military equipment or heavily armed soldiers. It is focusing on chemical, biological, radiological and explosive material.

More than 350 chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialists from 10 NATO countries — including Canada, the United States, Britain, France and Germany — are testing their skills in a realistic environment. Nearly all of the participants are wearing some sort of bio-hazard suit.

During three simultaneous exercises set in the imaginary country of Canuckistan, teams investigate reports of terrorist activity and follow clues to chemical weapons factories and eventually bring back material to mobile labs to check its content.

Capt. Nesse Timmers of the Netherlands is commanding one of the exercises. He said a team approach is important in the battle against terrorism so as to be ready for when the "real deal" comes along.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## NEW BRUNSWICK

### Wheelchair-bound man killed on tracks by train

A 29-year-old New Brunswick man in a wheelchair was killed when he was struck by a CN train at a crossing in Moncton, police said Wednesday.

RCMP Const. Derek Black said the man from Moncton was on the tracks at a crossing near Robinson and Victoria streets when he was hit by the train at 1:45 a.m.

"Police are trying to determine why he was on the tracks and what exactly happened," he said. "There's no indication anyone else was involved at

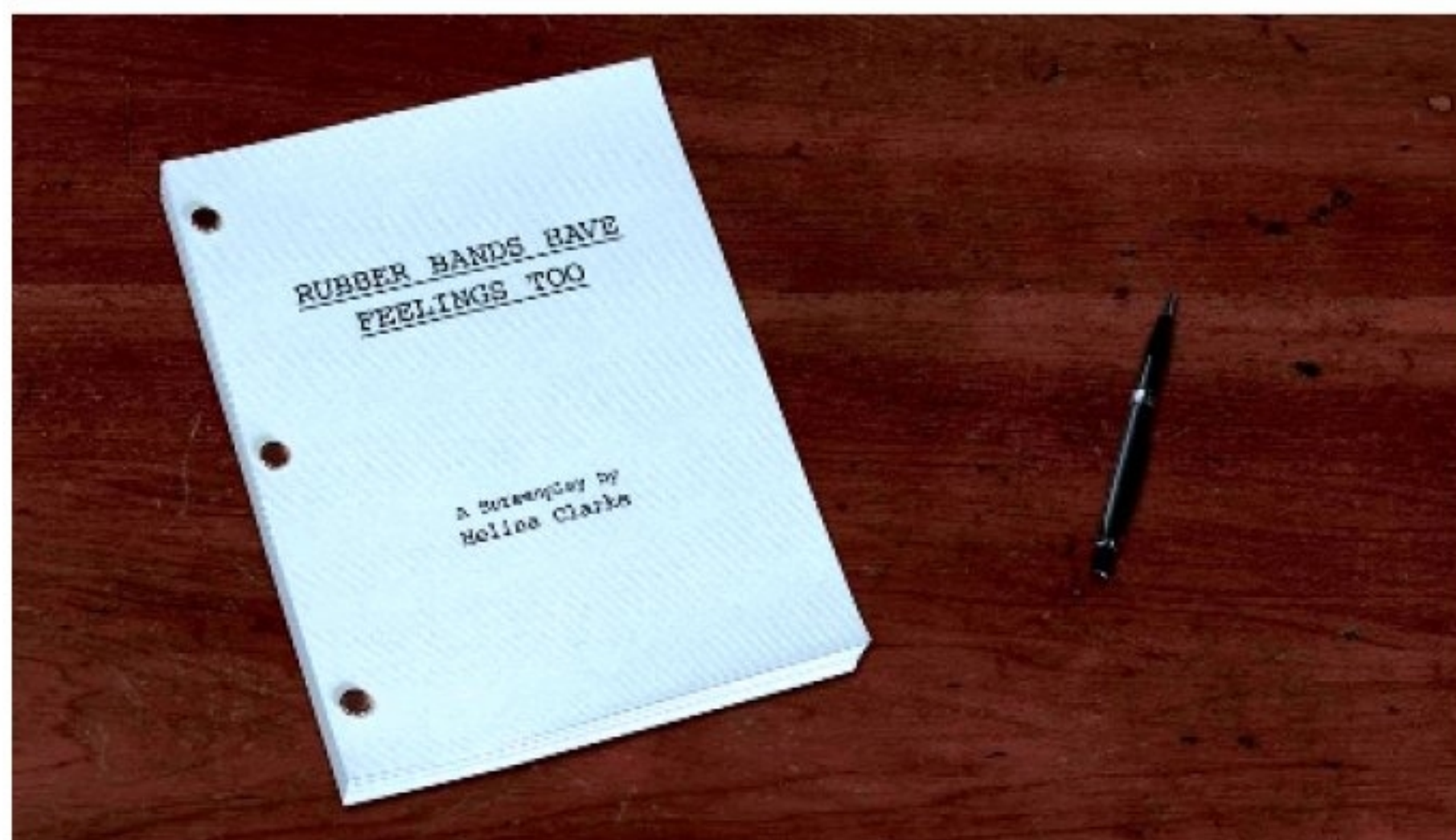
this point."

Cpl. Jacques Cloutier added that foul play is not suspected, but it remains unclear why the man was in the area.

"We may never (uncover what happened). We don't know. That's something for whether the investigation will reveal any further information or not."

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada says it has sent in a team of investigators to try to find out what happened.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Barack Obama said his 2008 battle against Hillary Clinton was incredibly tough. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Democrats break out Obama

NATIONAL CONVENTION

**No one has ever been more qualified than Hillary, he says**

The Democrats wheeled out their biggest hitter Wednesday night, and he didn't pull his punches.

U.S. President Barack Obama took the convention stage, smiling at chants of "Yes we can," and used all his skills as an orator to speak for Hillary Clinton as "a mother and a grandmother who would do anything to help our children thrive."

He spoke of the race for the nomination in which he beat Clinton.

"Every time I thought the race was won, she just came back stronger," Obama said, pointing out that Clinton's time as secretary of state had her involved in tough security decisions.

"There has never been a man or a woman — not me, not Bill or anybody, who has been more qualified to serve as President of the United States," Obama said.

And he had harsh words for the Republicans, saying this is "not a typical election" but instead a "more fundamental choice about who we are."

The Republican convention presented "a deeply pessimistic vision of a country where we turn against each other and against the world," the president said.

His support for Clinton is also driven by deep concern that Donald Trump might win and unravel his eight years in office.

Wednesday night's Democrat-

## + KAINE SPEAKS

Clinton's running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, addressed the convention, formally accepting the nomination to run for vice-president.



Sen. Tim Kaine

Kaine praised Clinton's character, saying it was shown in her "passion for kids and families" throughout her political career and before she ran for office.

He repeatedly invoked Bernie Sanders' name, calling him a valued colleague, and launched a fierce attack on "one-man wrecking crew" Donald Trump, including his failure to publish details of his taxes. METRO

ic lineup was aimed at emphasizing Clinton's national-security credentials. It came in the wake of comments by Trump earlier in the day encouraging Russia to find emails Clinton says she deleted as secretary of state.

Vice-President Joe Biden appealed directly to the working class white voters who have been drawn to Trump's populism, warning them against falling for false promises.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a billionaire himself, took aim at Trump's bankruptcies. METRO,

WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Diverse party faces gap with white men

The Democratic National Convention speaker's lineup has highlighted an increasingly diverse country that could soon elect the first female president to succeed its first black chief executive.

Yet the stream of women, African-Americans, Latinos, gay Americans — from U.S. senators and celebrities to activists and, on Thursday, Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton herself — also serves as a reminder of Democrats'

struggles to connect with most heterosexual white men.

"It's just sad," says Dave "Mudcat" Saunders, a Democratic strategist turned Donald Trump supporter who says his party "has abandoned" culturally conservative white men like himself.

Even Vice-President Joe Biden offered a noteworthy, if more muted assessment Wednesday. Democrats have "done the right thing" for

white working-class voters, he said on MSNBC, but the party hasn't "spoken to them."

It's a long-developing gap that bolsters Republican control of Congress and most statehouses. It could play into the hands of Republican Trump, whose path to victory depends on whites drawn to his blistering critiques of elitism and "political correctness" in the America of Clinton and Barack Obama.

White men still make up about a third of the typical presidential electorate and will be crucial to Trump's fortunes in Rust Belt states that have seen a declining middle class. They also could tip the balance in battlegrounds like Virginia and Florida, states Obama won twice.

Saunders says both parties play "wedge and identity politics" on guns, gay rights and other issues.

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People stand near a makeshift memorial near the Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray church on Wednesday. CHARLY TRIBALLEAU/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

# Acquaintances of killer unsurprised

FRANCE

## Daesh video allegedly shows vow by teenager who slew priest

Adel Kermiche nursed his obsession with jihad in the quiet French town of Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, and his twice-thwarted attempt to join Daesh extremists in Syria ended with an attack on an elderly priest.

New details emerged Wednesday about the 19-year-old,

one of two assailants who took hostages Tuesday at a church in the town, slitting the throat of the Rev. Jacques Hamel before being shot to death by police.

The attack was claimed by Daesh, which released a video Wednesday allegedly showing Kermiche and his accomplice pledging allegiance to the group.

In it, Kermiche identifies himself by the nom de guerre Abul Jaleel al-Hanafi and says his compatriot is called Ibn Omar. Speaking in broken Arabic, Kermiche recites: "We pledge allegiance and obedience to Emir of the faithful Abu Bakr al-Baghdady

“

**I knew it was him. I was sure.**

Attacker's neighbour

in hardship and in ease."

Those who knew him said Kermiche appeared to think of little else other than trying to join the extremist group in Syria after the January 2015 attacks on the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo.

"He said it wasn't possible to live peacefully in France. He spoke with words that did not belong to him. He was mesmer-

ized," his mother said in an interview last year after her son was detained and returned to France after trying to make it to Syria.

Initially Kermiche was jailed, but a judge ordered him placed him under limited house arrest.

A neighbour, who gave only his first name, Redwan, was at work when he learned about Tuesday's attack at the church.

"I knew it was him. I was sure," the 18-year-old said. "We tried to bring him to his senses, but every time we did it he was bringing in a verse from the Qur'an. He was inventing things."

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REACTION

## A sign of war, but not religious one: Pope

Pope Francis, deeply saddened by the slaying of an elderly priest during Mass in a church in the French countryside, warned grimly Wednesday that the world is at war but cautioned against labelling it a war among religions.

At the start of his first ever trip to Eastern Europe, where anti-migrant sentiments have been rising, he also encouraged Europe to welcome refugees from war, hunger and religious persecution and called for "courage" and "compassion."

Francis was celebrating World Youth Day in Poland, where the conservative government has shut the doors to migrants and many fear that accepting Muslim refugees would threaten the nation's security and its Catholic identity.

As he started the five-day trip, he told an audience of Poland's president, diplomats and other dignitaries that what is needed is "a spirit of readiness to welcome those fleeing from wars and hunger, and solidarity with those deprived of their fundamental rights, including the right to profess one's faith in freedom and safety."

While the speech had in mind the hundreds of thousands of migrants fleeing Syria, Iraq and other Mideast countries, as well as impoverished nations in Africa, his reference to practicing one's faith in safety could also be seen as an allusion to the slaying of the 85-year-old French priest by two extremists in Normandy on Tuesday.



Pope Francis prays during a meeting with Polish bishops at Wawel royal castle's cathedral in Krakow on Wednesday during World Youth Day. GETTY IMAGES

The murder compounded security fears surrounding Francis' trip, which were already high due to a string of violent attacks in France and Germany. Polish officials say they have deployed tens of thousands of security officials to cover the event.

Francis spoke to reporters as he flew from Rome to Krakow. Asked about the slaying of the priest, Francis replied: "It's war; we don't have to be afraid to say this."

He then sought to avoid any misunderstanding of his definition of war.

"I only want to clarify that, when I speak of war, I am really speaking of war," he said. "A war of interests, for money, resources, dominion of peoples."

"I am not speaking of a war of religions. Religions don't want war. The others want war," he added.

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# All charges dropped in death of Gray

BALTIMORE

## Attorney says fault lies with evasive police, justice system

More than a year after a black man suffered a broken neck in a police van, the effort to hold six officers criminally responsible for his death collapsed Wednesday.

day when the city dropped all charges.

A day before another trial was to begin, prosecutors dismissed charges against three remaining officers, blaming police for a biased investigation that failed to produce a single conviction in the death of Freddie Gray.

Gray, 25, was fatally injured in April 2015 while he was handcuffed and shackled but left otherwise unsecured in the back of the van. His death led to

the city's worst riots in decades.

On Wednesday, Democratic State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby blamed the outcome on an uncooperative police department and a broken justice system.

Mosby outlined what prosecutors have called sabotage, saying officers who were witnesses were also part of the department's investigative team. She said "obvious questions" weren't asked during interrogations. She alleged lead detectives were slow to

provide information and failed to execute search warrants for key text messages. She also accused investigators of creating notes to contradict the medical examiner's conclusion that Gray's death was a homicide.

Gene Ryan, president of Baltimore's police union, called Mosby's comments "outrageous."

"The state's attorney could not accept the evidence," Ryan said. "She had her own agenda."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Gloria Darden, the mother of Freddie Gray, wipes away tears at a news conference Wednesday. STEVE RUARK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SYRIA

## Bomb kills dozens in Kurdish region

A suicide bomber riding a live-stock truck laden with explosives blew himself up Wednesday in a crowded district in the predominantly Kurdish town of Qamishli in northern Syria, killing 44 people in a new attack claimed by Daesh.

Residents and activists describe a huge explosion in the western district of the town.

Hours after the early-morning explosion, workers continued to search for survivors under the rubble of buildings, some of them totally levelled. Most of the victims were civilians, who were lingering in the district that also houses a station for the Kurdish security forces. It was not immediately clear if any Kurdish fighters were among those killed.

"Terror is all I saw among the residents when I first arrived. I was shocked at the extent of destruction in the homes and shops," said Decile Husen, a 23-year-old media activist who works with the Kurdish ANHA Hawar news agency. "One home was reduced to rubble. Nothing was left of it."

Qamishli, near the Turkish border, is mainly controlled by Kurds but Syrian government forces are present and control the town's airport.

The Kurds, Syria's largest ethnic minority, have carved out a semi-autonomous enclave in Syria's north since the start of the civil war in 2011, where they run their own affairs.

Kurdish officials said the Daesh militants targeted the town in retaliation for the ongoing offensive they lead against Manbij, a Daesh stronghold east of Qamishli.

The predominantly Kurdish Syria Democratic Forces, backed by airstrikes and training from the U.S.-led coalition, have been the main force fighting Daesh on the ground in northern Syria. Kurdish forces have also been the most successful ground force in terms of reclaiming territory and towns from Daesh over the past two years. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Residents gather at the site of a bomb attack in Qamishli. DELIL SOULEIMAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

## GERMANY

### Fifteen-year-old accused of planning violent rampage

German authorities have arrested a 15-year-old boy who they suspect of having planned a rampage and also believe was in contact with a teenager who killed nine people in Munich last week.

The boy was arrested on Monday night and sent to a psychiatric facility, prosecutors and police in Ludwigsburg said Wednesday.

Police searched the boy's family home and found small-calibre bullets, knives and daggers, escape plans for

his school, chemicals and instructions for making explosives. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Police raid mosque known as extremism 'hot spot'

Authorities in Germany say police have raided a mosque believed to be a "hot spot" for Islamic extremists in the city of Hildesheim.

Officials said the apartments of eight members of the "German-speaking Islam Circle Hildesheim" organization were also searched Wednesday, news agency dpa reported. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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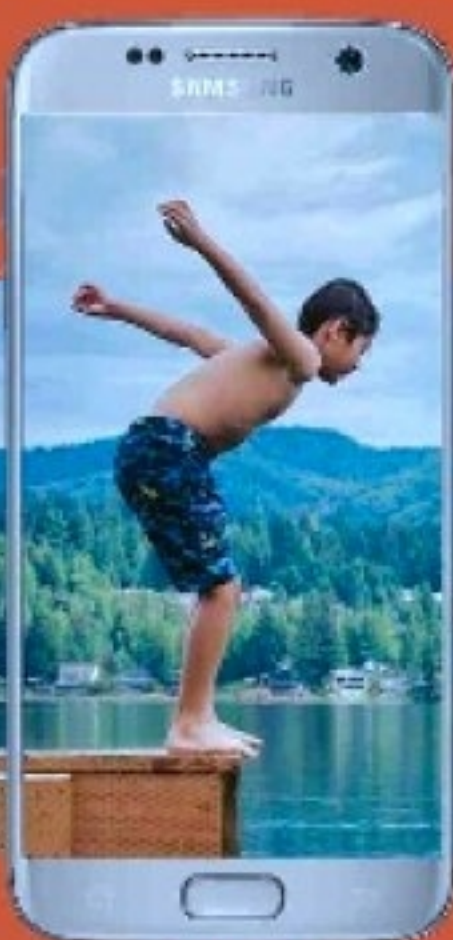
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# Vancouver housing overheated

## REAL ESTATE

### National agency raises risk rating to highest level

Canada's national housing agency rang more alarm bells about Vancouver's real estate sector after it released a report Wednesday saying there is now strong evidence of problematic conditions in the city.

In a quarterly housing market assessment released Wednesday, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. increased its risk rating for Vancouver to its highest level for the first time since it began releasing the reports last year.

The housing agency said it is seeing evidence of an overheated market, which occurs when demand outstrips supply, and price acceleration in the city. Previously, it had said there was strong indications of overvaluation as prices for single detached homes have soared higher than what economic fundamentals can support.

Robyn Adamache, a principal market analyst for CMHC, said there have been signs of overheating in Vancouver's real estate market for some time, but the agency didn't want to prematurely signal that warning.

"We had been waiting for a couple of quarters of evidence to be able to make that call," Adamache said.

"And part of what contributed to making that call this quarter is that we have started

to see the multi-family sector, including both townhomes and apartments, also moving into overheated conditions in terms of the sales to new listings ratio, whereas before it was only on the single-family side."

CMHC's assessment comes as the B.C. government plans to implement several measures, including a 15 per cent tax for foreigners purchasing property, in an effort to cool down house prices that are among the highest in North America.

CMHC's report Wednesday also said that evidence of problematic conditions in Canada's housing market as a whole has risen from weak to moderate.

Toronto, Calgary, Saskatoon and Regina all showed strong evidence of problematic conditions, according to the report, while real estate markets in Edmonton, Winnipeg, Hamilton, Montreal and Quebec have exhibited moderate evidence of imbalances.

The housing agency says imbalances occur when overbuilding, overvaluation, overheating and/or price acceleration depart significantly from historical averages.

Overall evidence of problematic conditions has decreased in Ottawa since the previous CMHC housing market assessment in April.

The assessment is intended to be an early warning system to alert Canadians about problematic conditions developing in the country's real estate markets. It covers 15 regional markets and the national housing market as a whole.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Workers clear blockages from pumps at a Vancouver station. The regional utility has launched a campaign to convince residents not to flush anything but bodily waste and toilet paper. CONTRIBUTED - METRO VANCOUVER UTILITIES/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

## SANITATION

### Flushable wipes controversy gets dirty

The long-running "flushable wipes" controversy has turned into an ongoing war of words in Canada, with manufacturers insisting their moist towelettes are more sewer-friendly than ever as municipalities urge citizens to put them in the garbage, not down the loo.

More than a dozen lawsuits have been launched in the United States against manufacturers, claiming damages to individual or municipal sewer systems, but in Canada the fight is so far a public relations battle.

Metro Vancouver, for instance, is spending \$200,000 on an "Adult Toilet Training" program this summer, using humorous videos and ads in pink porta-potties to bring the message to its 2.5 million system users that it's not OK to flush "flushable" wipes — or anything else other than "pee, poo and toilet paper."

In Fredericton, the city warns: "If you did not eat it first, you should find another way to dispose of it," on its website. Toronto's wastewater div-

ision advises residents not to flush any wipes — "even those that say flushable can cause a problem."

The industry, however, is unrepentant. Lynn Matheus, senior research and engineering manager for Kimberly-Clark, the company that manufactures popular Cottonelle wipes, insists that flushable wipes are just that. "We continue to stand firmly behind our claims that our wipes are flushable and they are safe for sewer and septic systems," she said in an interview, adding the U.S. Federal Trade Commission in June closed without action an investigation into whether Kimberly-Clark's marketing of flushable wipes is misleading.

Matheus estimated Canada's flushable wipes market is about \$20 million per year, up about 10 per cent from 2015.

Darrell Mussatto, Metro Vancouver utilities chairman, is just as convinced that the wipes are a problem.

"It cost us \$100,000 in 2015 to declog the pumps in the sewer system to remove flushable wipes," he said.

Barry Orr, a wastewater expert with the Municipal Enforcement Sewer Use Group, comprised of 29 Ontario communities, says he stands by his rough estimate of \$250 million per year in clog cleanup costs for Canadian utilities because of flushable wipes.

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# 4%

The rate at which the North American market for flushable wipes is growing, according to the Association of Nonwoven Fabrics Industry.

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## ROSEMARY WESTWOOD ON WHAT HILLARY'S NOMINATION PORTENDS

### The true, extended test of a Clinton presidency — and American society by extension — would be in how long it takes for another woman to similarly ascend.

Perhaps, like roughly 60 per cent of the U.S. electorate, you view Hillary Clinton ... let's say "unfavourably."

Perhaps, like Julian Assange, you consider the choice before Americans in November as akin to "asking me, do I prefer cholera or gonorrhea?" You might hate Clinton's hawkishness, dislike her handling of the email scandal, consider her too centrist, too liberal, or distrust her political motives. You might also be a raging sexist.

Feminism is the undercurrent to this week's Democratic National Convention. It coloured Bill Clinton's portrayal of his driven, defiant wife. And it has been personified in Lena Dunham, for millennial women; Meryl Streep, for second-wavers; and Michelle Obama for literally everybody.

According to the DNC, Clinton's rise is a game-changer for women in American society, too. That was made explicit nowhere more elegantly than in Michelle Obama's barnburner of a speech, in which she said that Clinton was the kind of leader who keeps putting "those cracks in the highest and hardest glass ceiling until they finally break through, lifting all of us along with her."

The Obama daughters now "take it for granted" that a woman can be president, Obama said. But can is not the same as will. And women might not all be lifted. At least, not immediately.

**The Obama daughters now 'take it for granted' that a woman can be president, Michelle said. But can is not the same as will.**

History is full of monumental firsts that do not open a floodgate of seconds, thirds, fourths and fifths. Canada hasn't had a woman prime minister since Kim Campbell in the 1990s. She held the job for a whopping four months. After Margaret Thatcher's long reign in the U.K., it was another quarter century before Theresa May

those advancements allow people to excuse their prejudice. "We must live in an equal society if a woman can be president!" Never mind the reality.

The true, extended test of a Clinton presidency — and American society by extension — would be in how long it takes for another woman to similarly ascend.



**REMEMBER — WE DID IT FIRST** Former prime minister Kim Campbell is seen in Vancouver in April 2015. Campbell's four-month tenure in 1993 was the last time a woman got close to the job. THE CANADIAN PRESS

landed at 10 Downing. When she did, English-language papers could only muster enough imagination to compare her to other women leaders, which left them all drawing Thatcher and Angela Merkel parallels.

In his new Revisionist History podcast, Malcolm Gladwell charts these yawning gaps between one woman's advancement and the next to tread in her footprints. He posits that moral licensing — a term used to describe the way people tend to excuse our general bad behaviour if we've done a good deed — could explain the phenomenon: Sexism continues to flourish even in the face of women's advancements precisely because

Every woman who attempts to chart this course will inevitably be and uniformly compared to Clinton. Her successes and failures will be the foil for them all.

In Canada, our concern over never once voting a woman into the PMO in a general election is oddly mute. It's not much of a burning problem, it would seem, that only 26 per cent of federal MPs are women, a rate that, while abysmal, is marginally better than provincial and municipal levels, which Simon Fraser University researcher Halena Seifert pegs at 25.7 per cent and 23 per cent, respectively.

Low though they may be, those numbers took decades to build up. A graph

produced by the website FiveThirtyEight shows the rise of women in U.S. Congress since 1917, and it has all the gradual elevation of a shallow beach.

Equal Voice, Canada's non-partisan organization dedicated to electing more women, has decided the best hope may just be to target the politically minded young and aim to reap the benefits decades from now. The group launched a project this summer called Daughters of the Vote, which is recruiting 338 young women to fill the seats in Parliament during a special event next year, when they'll learn about Canada's political institutions.

"We're investing 10, 20 years down the road," executive director Nancy Peckford told me. "Demystifying the process, helping them identify the number of roles you can play so they never dismiss formal political engagement as a way to make change."

The real kicker is that 1,500 young women have applied for those 338 spots, — more than the number of candidates in the last election, where women made up only one third. Equal Voice is also aiming for racial diversity, meaning the women they choose should "look like Canada," Peckford said.

Without such efforts, she added, it could take 90 years to close the gap.

This is "equality" in Canada, and the U.S.: A slow plod toward more women politicians that doesn't so much as increase your heartbeat, and a history of female leadership that reads as precipitous peaks and valleys.

So, yes, expect a momentous night for Clinton, and feminists may as well enjoy that as much as we can muster. There may not be another chance for a long, long time.



## Bernie's is the real populist revolution

 **Linda McQuaig**

Besides providing some powerful lines for Melania Trump's next speech, Michelle Obama reminded us this week how inspiring the Democrats can be at their best.

Indeed, while Donald Trump has grabbed political centre stage due to his sheer loudness, it may be the Democratic Party that is undergoing the more far-reaching transformation.

After years of drifting towards the centre, the Democrats have been profoundly shaken by Bernie Sanders' insurgent populist campaign.

Of course, Hillary Clinton is the Democratic nominee, but the clout exercised by the millions of committed Sanders supporters is reflected in the party's unusually progressive platform and the prominence the party has felt obliged to give to Sanders and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, whose popularity is further proof that the demise of Occupy Wall Street has been greatly exaggerated.

The youthful Sanders crowd, which threatened to derail the convention on opening day, isn't likely to go away. It's determined to shape the Democratic Party of the future, believing that the only way to respond to the class war being waged by an aggressive billionaire class is with backbone — a body part that's been noticeably missing from Democrats in recent decades.

In the midst of the 1930s Depression, Democratic president Franklin Roosevelt showed backbone, championing unions, bringing in universal pensions, taxing the rich and restraining Wall Street with the Glass-Steagall Act. Addressing a wildly cheering crowd at Madison Square

Garden in 1936, Roosevelt vowed to defy the bankers and financial tycoons lined up against him. "They are unanimous in their hate for me — and I welcome their hatred!"

Roosevelt's New Deal ushered in a postwar era in which workers made impressive economic gains as a rising middle class while the wealthy elite lost ground.

Starting in the late 1970s, however, the elite launched a forceful counteroffensive with the support of the Republican party, and the Democrats were surprisingly weak in response, eventually realigning themselves with Wall Street and voting with Republicans for financial deregulation and lower taxes on the rich.

Perhaps most stunning of recent Democratic abdications was the party's failure to mount even a feeble defence of the estate tax when George W. Bush and the GOP moved to gut it. The tax had been the pillar of progressive taxation in the U.S. for more than a century, applying only to the richest of the rich.

Much has been said about the alleged populism of Donald Trump, who is calling for a new round of staggeringly large tax cuts for the rich, including the complete elimination of the estate tax. As for the working poor: Trump opposes increasing the federal minimum wage, and has floated the idea of abolishing it altogether, allowing states to compete in setting ever-lower minimum wages.

The forces unleashed by Bernie Sanders hunger for a real populism, and they're unlikely to settle for anything less than a party that once again shows backbone against bellicose billionaires.

**Linda McQuaig** is a journalist and author.

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# Podcasts face an uphill battle

## MEDIA

### Canadian shows lack funds, support

**Genna Buck**  
Metro Canada



When they see a new episode of *Witch, Please* in their podcast feeds and hear those familiar owl hoots, listeners know they can settle in for another hour or more of Hannah McGregor and Marcelle Kosman's funny, feminist banter on the Harry Potter series.

The Edmonton-based podcast hosts have passion, 3,000 listeners and a lively program. What they lack is any reliable way to make money from their work.

Despite a few breakout successes, like the media-criticism show *Canadaland*, the Canadian podcasting industry is in its infancy and dominated by repackaged radio shows. The format — audio content delivered via digital syndication — has been around for more than a decade.

"I listen to almost no Canadian (podcasts), because they usually feel like edited radio," McGregor said.

Podcasts, at their best, share features with great radio: important stories with high production values and a reliable release schedule. But the two forms are not synonymous.

"The pleasures of podcasting have to do with the intimacy of the audience," McGregor said.



Self-taught podcaster Hannah McGregor is wrapping up *Witch, Please*, a Harry Potter-themed program, and planning to start a new podcast soon. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

"You feel like ... a specialized community of friends. Radio, because it's supposed to speak to the nation, doesn't really work in the same way."

Only one of the top ten podcasts on the Canadian iTunes charts is Canadian: *Love Me*, a CBC-backed program that recently wrapped its first season with no plans yet to renew.

That 1-to-10 ratio is "expected," said Lori Beckstead, a professor of digital media at Ryerson University.

Canada is a small media market, and unlike TV or radio creators, podcasters aren't protected by *Cancon* rules. At present

there's no Canada Council for the Arts grant for general podcasts.

To amass enough listeners to make money, podcasters need "an existing personal or business brand, or a niche topic that isn't serving audiences already out there," Beckstead said. "If you are just an average Joe or Josephine, it is a tough, tough uphill slog."

Canada doesn't have anything like the U.S. media companies that incubate, promote, and solicit ads for podcasts, like Panoply, Radiotopia and Gimlet Media, among others.

Some companies do sponsor podcasters in exchange for on-air

ads, but this route isn't feasible without a large audience.

McGregor said when she looked into it, given their listener base, a sponsor break in every biweekly episode would bring in \$15 to \$20 per month.

Patreon, a virtual tip-jar for artists, is "the only viable way to make money off a podcast in Canada," she said.

Kaitlin Prest knows that reality all too well. In 2008, when she became the host of *The Heart*, an audio program about sex and relationships, it was still a show on university radio in Montreal called *Audio Smut*. It became an independent podcast based

in New York City when Prest moved there in 2012.

"In Canada, it felt like you work at the CBC or you don't do radio," Prest said. Community radio also didn't provide a clear way to create a profitable business or a polished sound.

"I needed an editor, I needed an engineer, someone to fix the show and make it sound good. Those were things I had to learn all by myself," Prest said.

In New York, she found those resources, and a community of audio storytellers. Radiotopia picked up *The Heart* in 2014; investing \$24,000, Prest said.

Canada has podcast networks, but they're not throwing around that kind of money.

A notable one is the Toronto-based *Never Sleeps Network*, which founder Alex Ross describes as an "artists' commune." Members share the costs of running a small studio, and don't have sponsors. But what they're building — a base of listeners with a variety of niche interests — is worth money, Ross said.

"I have every comic book nerd in Toronto at my fingertips. Hobbies are the best ways to connect people," Ross said.

"Successful podcast networks are just floating," he added. "If one company was smart enough, they'd scoop us all up."

For now, Canadian podcasting is a labour of love.

"Success in Canada looks a lot different than in other countries. If we're getting up in the morning and going to the studio instead of our (jobs), that's success. If I can pay my bills, that's complete success, Ross said.

## LISTEN TO THIS

Metro has some new podcasts of its own, with more on the way. Visit [metronews.ca/podcasts](http://metronews.ca/podcasts) to listen.

### Scrub League: Canada's first eSports Podcast

A hilarious but rigorous show about the fastest-growing pop-culture phenomenon in the world: competitive video-gaming. Every week hosts Colin, Kevin and Samantha bring you the latest news and views from the world of eSports.



### Nth Wave: A podcast about women and the media

Every week Metro's national columnist Rosemary Westwood sits down with a female guest to discuss what it's like to be a woman working in, engaging with, and being covered by the North American media.



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# A bachelorette party that goes really, really badly

CRIME THRILLER

**Author was surprised idea had not been used before**

**Sue Carter**  
For Metro Canada



For some women, just the idea of being invited to a childhood friend's weekend bachelorette party is a nightmare.

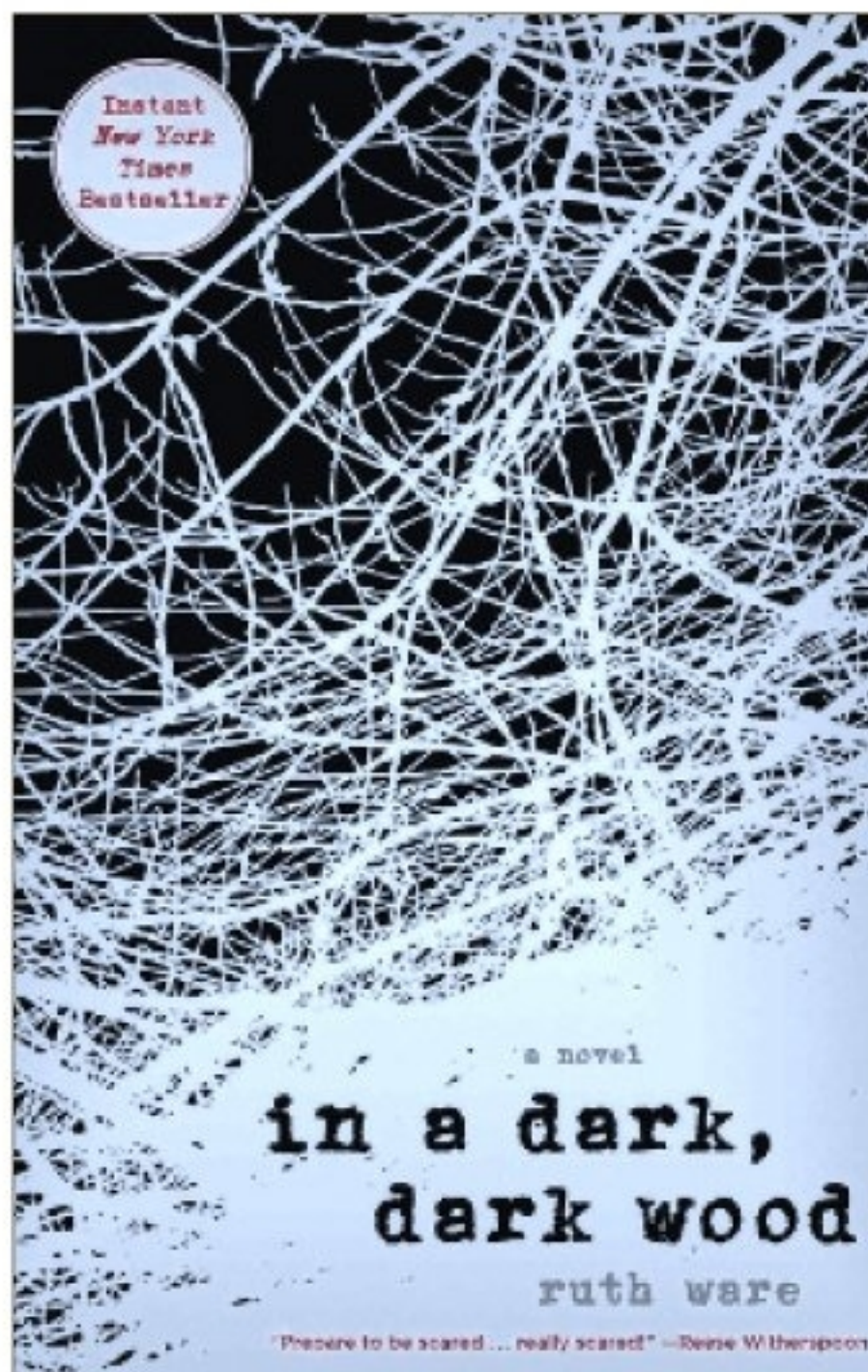
For U.K. author Ruth Ware, that socially awkward horror became the inspiration for her international best-selling debut psychological thriller, *In a Dark, Dark Wood*, a twisted and suspenseful mystery that entangles friendship, identity and memory with a possible murder.

Reclusive mystery novelist Leonora is surprised to receive an invitation to a bachelorette party — or “hen party” as it's known across the pond — to be held at an architecturally imposing glass house set deep in a remote forest.

Leonora hasn't spoken to her friend Claire in more than a decade, the reasons for which she reveals slowly after waking up battered in the hospital with a police officer stationed outside her door.

Like Paula Hawkins' Rachel in *The Girl on the Train*, Leonora is an unreliable narrator at best as she struggles to remember exactly how the party ended in a bloody mess.

The idea for *In a Dark, Dark Wood* came to Ware thanks to a friend's observation that



a hen party would make an amazing setting for a thriller.

“It was one of those ideas that you almost can't believe hasn't been done before. Literally, as soon as she said that I knew immediately that I wanted to write this book,” says Ware. “I've never had an experience like that before where the book almost plotted itself.”

Ware says that all the ele-

ments were there: it's a high-stakes emotional event, usually serving a lot of alcohol, involving a small group of people who come together as strangers.

“I've been on weekends where the only person I know is the hen,” says Ware.

“It is quite weird because you're thrust into this very intense camaraderie with people that you don't know

terribly well. Also, the fact that these people are usually plucked from very different periods from the bride's life, you suddenly get a glimpse of how much people change, not deliberately, but how much they present different faces of themselves.”

She has also observed that modern hen parties have become competitively elaborate shindigs that require major financial and time commitments from guests, which only ratchets up the emotions even more.

“It used to be that you'd just go down to the pub for a few drinks with your mom and your friends, and now people are flying abroad, and spending whole weekends,” Ware says. “It has become quite competitive, and a really big ask.”

While the premise is contemporary, *In a Dark, Dark Wood* — which is set to be adapted for film by *Gone Girl* producer Reese Witherspoon — subtly tips its hat to authors such as Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayers.

Ware, who describes her childhood self as a “classic crime geek,” says she wasn't aware of their influence while writing the book, but describes the closed-room whodunit as very much a conceit of golden-era mysteries.

“When you have people slightly awkwardly rubbing up against each other it creates narrative tension,” she says. “Especially when you put people in a remote location with a very small cast of characters, and you can't get away.”

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

GRAPHIC NOVEL

## Jughead collection is genre-bending fun

**Jughead Volume One**  
**BY:** Chip Zdarsky and Erica Henderson  
**PUBLISHER:** Archie Comics

**Mike Donachie**  
Metro | Canada

Jughead was always the weird one, and he's super-weird in this first collection from the relaunched Archie universe.

While the other characters have always done pretty

straightforward teen comedy, Jughead was the bizarre guy who ate burgers, wore a stupid hat and turned laziness into an artform.

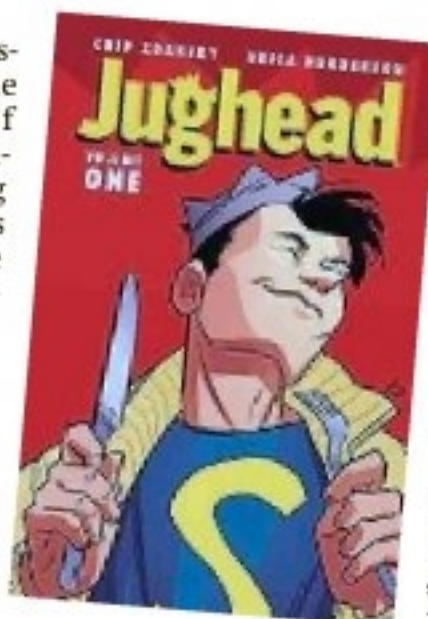
Now, revitalized by Toronto's king of comical comics, Chip Zdarsky, and talented artist Erica Henderson, Jughead's probably funnier than ever.

This book grabbed lots of attention with the low-key revelation that its main character is asexual.

That's great, but it's a minor part of its appeal.

The real treasure here is the layering of laughs and oddness, drawing on Jughead's history of time travel, beardless piracy and general scheming.

There's a plot, too, and — like always — it's really out there, compared to



other Archie books.

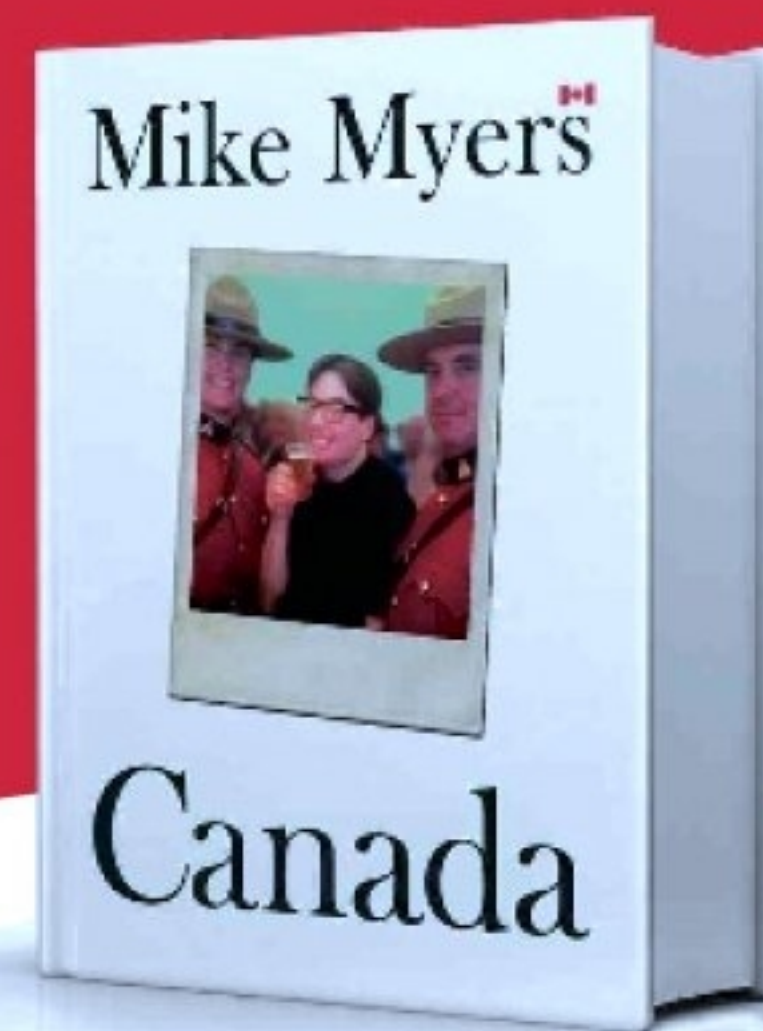
Jughead's fighting back against his sinister new principal, with the rest of the gang and frequent dream sequences.

Just go with it. Everybody needs a bit of Jughead in their life.

# Mike Myers

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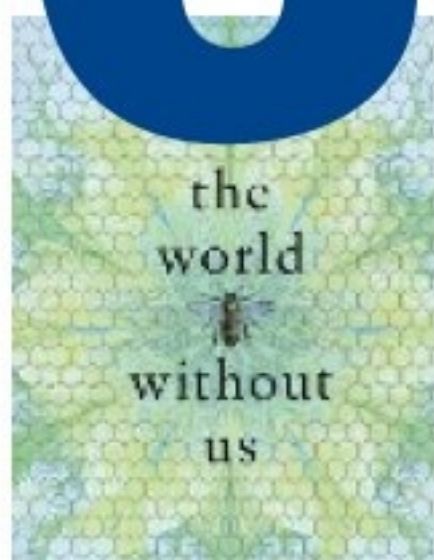


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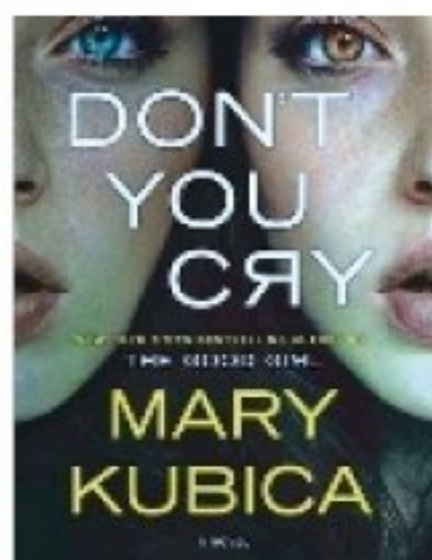
# 6 PERFECT COMPANIONS ON A SUMMER DAY

Each of these recent books would make an excellent travelling companion — entertaining and distracting, perfect for whiling away a summer day. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



## 1 The World Without Us, Mireille Juchau

The Müller family's youngest daughter, Pip, died two years ago, and each member is dealing with the loss. Evangeline walks the fields pushing her dead child's pram filled with painting supplies. Stefan, her husband, tends his collapsing bee colonies and, as the novel opens, discovers a van with skeletal remains within.



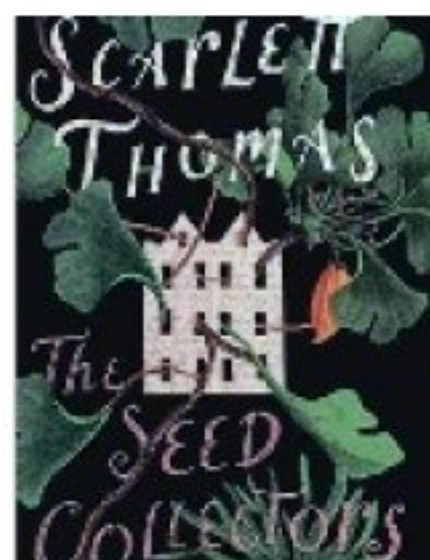
## 2 Don't You Cry, Mary Kubica

Quinn wakes up on a Sunday morning to discover her roommate, Esther, has disappeared. Searching her room yields nothing beyond a stalkerish letter addressed to My Dearest, signed with Esther's initials, EV. Quinn's apprehension mounts when she discovers Esther's former roommate died under suspicious circumstances.



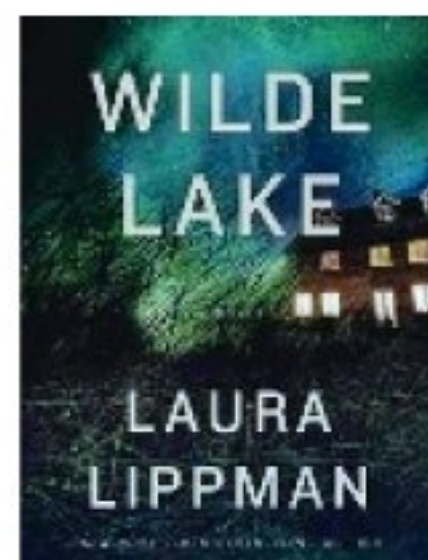
## 3 Beware That Girl, Teresa Toten

Teresa Toten begins her new novel in a hospital room. One girl lays unconscious. Another sits silent. One is Kate, the other Olivia, but which is which? We then cast back seven months to the beginning of the school year at New York's elite Waverley School, where we follow, in alternating chapters, Kate, a scholarship student, and rich Olivia, whom Kate recruits as her BFF.



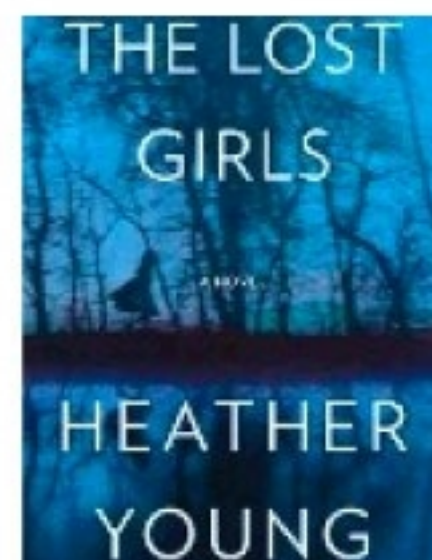
## 4 The Seed Collectors, Scarlett Thomas

This novel takes us into the lives of members of the Gardener family, the female members of which have horticultural monikers — Clem(atis), Plum, Lavender, Briar Rose and the like. As our story opens, great-aunt Oleander has just died, leaving Namaste House, a yoga retreat and refuge for celebrities, to Fleur.



## 5 Wilde Lake, Laura Lippman

Luisa Brant's story unfolds over two periods in alternating chapters. One is Lu's memoir, growing up the daughter of a revered state's attorney: his first celebrated case. The second thread concerns Lu Brant today: she is the new state attorney and her first case concerns a homeless man accused of murder.



## 6 The Lost Girls, Heather Young

The unsolved disappearance of six-year-old Emily in 1935 is at the heart of this polished debut. Lucy, Emily's older sister, now an elderly woman, writes an account of what happened that summer for her grand-niece, Justine, to read after her death. Lucy's story unfolds in alternating chapters with Justine's story.





# Fighting personal battles in the frontier

## INTERVIEW

### Dave Eggers' new book seeks pioneer spirit in modern life

The latest stop on Dave Eggers' long-running fictional tour: Alaska.

Eggers' new book *Heroes of the Frontier* tells of a single mother from Ohio who flees to Alaska with her young son and daughter in the wake of financial and personal disaster. Josie is a dentist forced to sell off her practice after being sued by a former patient.

Meanwhile, the father of her children is increasingly unreliable and she is haunted by guilt for encouraging a young patient to join the Marines, only to have him be killed in the war in Afghanistan.

In a recent interview, Eggers discussed the settings for his books, some common themes and how the American past connects to his current book.

**How did the basic narrative develop and why set it in Alaska?**

With *Heroes of the Frontier*, I started taking notes about Josie back in 2011. I knew I wanted to write about a dentist who had two kids, the father of whom was more of a useless appendage than a man.

Somewhere down the line, maybe two years into the note-taking process, I had the idea of putting her in Alaska. There's an unspoken assumption, I think, that Alaska is full of strong, self-reliant, plain-spoken people — frontier people — and Josie wants to be among people like that.

She wants to be among steel-spined people who won't let her down.

In general, I'm inclined to putting characters in new situations, new places. I like motion. In *Heroes* in particular, I wanted Josie and her kids to be repeatedly challenged by their surroundings, and to get stronger as a result.

**The book has classic American themes of flight and adventure but at times also seems like a dark and frightening take on life on the open road. Your thoughts?**

Because Josie is alone with two very young kids, she's often facing dangers real and imagined. There's also a hundred or so wildfires burning throughout the state, so there is some very real peril for a person meandering through the state without a plan and without a friend.

**For novels, do you often travel to places with the**

**conscious thought of writing about them or does that decision usually happen in retrospect?**

I spent some time in Alaska about three years ago, without any intention of writing about it. But I had this Josie character in my head at the time, and eventually it made sense that a character setting out on an epic journey would find herself in Homer.

**Do you see your work as a kind of continuing series about life worldwide in the 20th/21st century? Do you see a thread running through?**

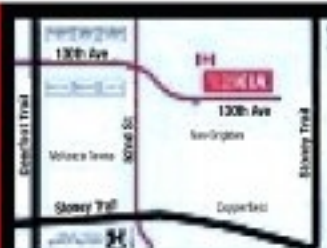
In some ways, I was hoping with *Heroes of the Frontier* to examine the American psyche, and our connection — if there still is one — between our pioneer past. Josie and her kids don't

seem to have anything in common with the heroes of the frontier of the past, but then again, maybe they do.

Maybe there's something in the blood — barbarian blood, I think — that connects an American dentist with the explorers, thieves, cowboys, settlers, winners and losers in American history.

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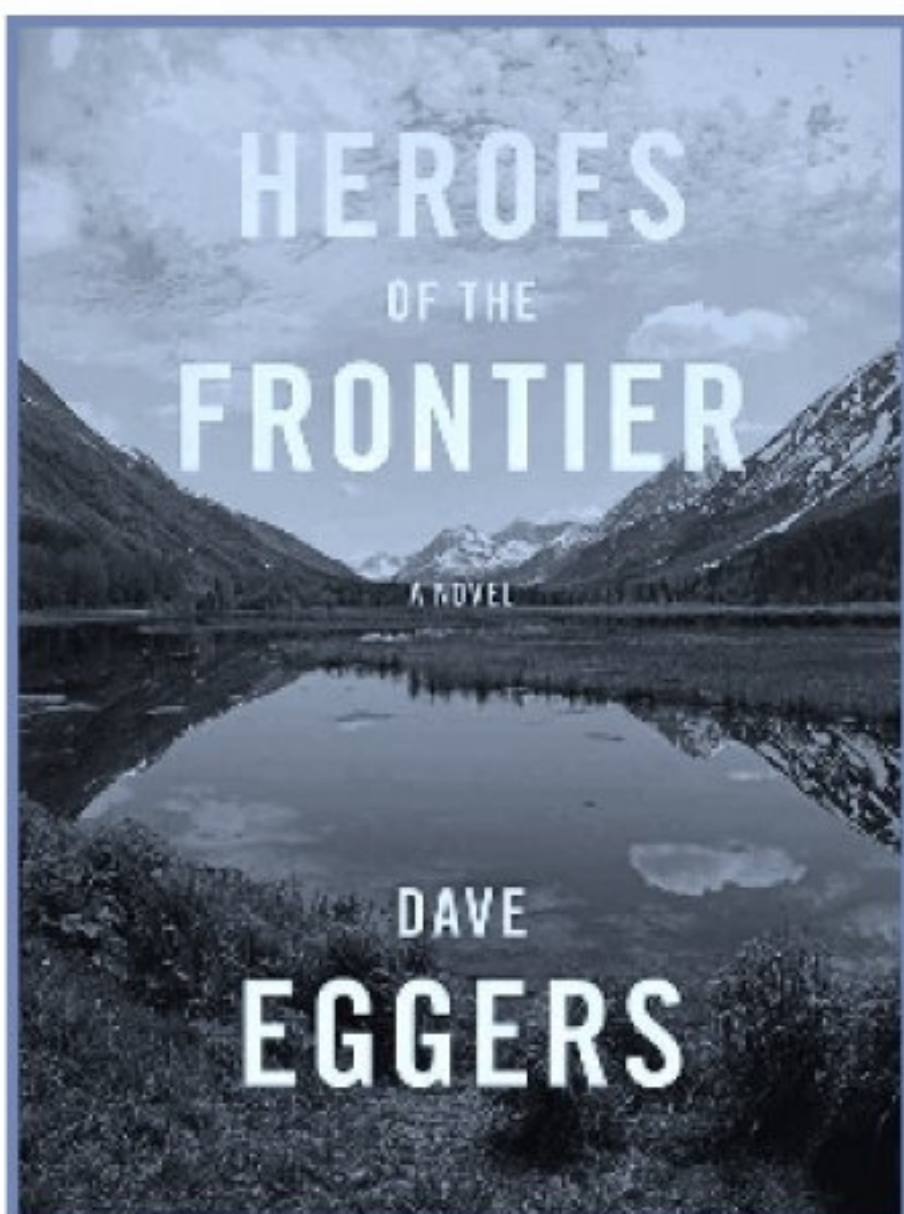
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The Power to Surprise



**In general, I'm inclined to putting characters in new situations, new places**

Author Dave Eggers



# UNDER THE SEA A CLOSEUP LOOK AT JELLYFISH

Jellyfish are in a class of their own in terms of exotic beauty and alien-like qualities. Author Lisa-ann Gershwin, author of *Jellyfish, A Natural History* (University of Chicago Press), says it's time to take note of them. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



## Anatomy

Looking more like an intricate lava lamp or perhaps an enormous squid-like sea creature, the image precedes an introduction to a short primer of jellyfish anatomy. While all jellyfish have gelatinous bodies, which aid in buoyancy, they come from three separate lineages: the medusae — which are the most common — comb jellies and salps.



## Prism jelly

On first glance, the image suggests nothing more than a yummy morsel of dim sum. The jellyfish pictured is a prism jelly called *Hippopodius hippopus* and although it appears to be a single organism, it's actually a colony. These jellyfish, which are bioluminescent and can flash a blue warning light when disturbed, are considered to be among the most delicate of their species.



## Lion's Mane

The Lion's Mane Jelly has a bell-like structured head with long, trailing tentacles. The largest examples have tentacles that extend 30 metres. While most Lion's Mane Jellies deliver marginally painful stings, a population found off the British Isles, classified as *C. capillata*, has a poison so lethal, it was used in a Sherlock Holmes tale called *The Adventure of the Lion's Mane*.



## Ecology

Jellyfish, like the one pictured with an entourage of small fish, are among the ocean's great survivors, having inhabited the oceans for at least 600 million years and possibly longer. Unlike most other creatures, jellyfish have remained largely unchanged, in part because of their adaptability to the sustenance at hand, with some species preying on small fish while others consume phytoplankton, others zooplankton and others are cannibalistic.

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## MEET THE CONDO

### EMERALD SKY

# Gem of a condo in Kincora



CONTRIBUTED

## Project overview

Concrete and steel construction of Emerald Sky provides a unique and rare concrete between units that blocks out unwanted noise for residents while not sacrificing affordability. All of the condos include in-suite front load washer and dryer, among other features.

## Housing amenities

Condos at Emerald Sky come with a home package by Telus or Shaw, that includes a wireless modem and router and 12 months of high-speed Internet and TV and all residents have access to a heated underground parkade.

## Location and transit

Kincora is a high-density community with a variety of bus routes in and out. Located on the corner of Shaganappi Trail and Stoney Trail and just five minutes away from the Calgary International Airport, it's only a 10 minute drive to hit the highway to Banff.

## In the neighbourhood

With Canada Olympic Park just minutes away, there is no shortage of parks, green space and outdoor living to enjoy. Heralded for its connectivity, there is a wide variety of shops, eateries, shopping and more.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO

## + NEED TO KNOW

**What:** Emerald Sky  
**Builder:** Carlisle Group  
**Location:** Kincora  
**Building:** Two buildings with 184 units  
**Sizes:** Between 646 sq. ft. and 937 sq. ft.  
**Pricing:** Starting in the \$200's  
**Suites:** Two bedrooms, two bedroom + den

**Status:** Occupancy late fall 2016  
**Sales Centre:** 355 Kincora Glen Rd N.W.  
**Hours:** Monday to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and Holidays 12 to 5 p.m.  
**Email:** Calgary@carlislegroup.ca  
**Phone:** 403-460-2510  
**Website:** carlislegroup.ca

## REAL ESTATE

# What's hot on the market

### 1 STILL SELLING

**916 Memorial by Sable Developments:** These unique 37-unit ReNew condos are perfectly located across from Peace Bridge in Sunnyside. One-bedroom units from the \$200,000s; two-bedroom suites in the \$300,000s. Show Suite at 916 Memorial Dr. N.W.

### 2 NOW OPEN

**GLAS by Avalon:** Don't miss your first chance to see what GLAS has to offer with one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-bedroom units close to the eclectic lifestyle of Marda Loop. Check out the Presentation Centre at 102, 1808 27 Ave. S.W.

### 3 STILL SELLING

**Smith by Grosvenor:** Perfectly located in the city's bustling Beltline, Smith features 129 boutique style homes in the heart of the city's cultural district. Check out the Presentation Centre located at the 2nd floor of 850 16th Ave. S.W.

KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO



KRISTA SYLVESTER/FOR METRO



# The floral look is blooming

## HOME DECORATING

### The image of flowers will share beauty from anywhere

**Glen Peloso**  
Torstar News Service

Flowers are so much more than just blooming beauties in the garden. A simple walk down the street shows just how much florals influence home décor. A few beautiful examples:

#### 1. Accents and accessories

Accessories and accent furniture are rife with floral motifs. Ideally, the notion of a floral pattern should be implied, otherwise florals will feel juvenile if they are too much like the real deal. Flowers can be cute as a mirror or other accessory. A round mirror, for instance, already has the appropriate shape to represent a flower. For any accent or accessory, look for elements such as a scalloped edge, a leaf motif or a starburst shape. Essentially, the starburst shape is similar to a flower in bloom. Leaf motifs

are often found in metals, such as gold and brass, and imply they are the branches leading to a bloom.

#### 2. Fabrics

Floral fabrics, through a combination of colour, can create the feeling of a beautiful summer garden. Such fabrics can work well in a variety of spaces, from a whimsical child's room to a formal sitting room straight out of Downton Abbey. Florals in fabric have a history dating back to the 12th century in central Asia, where they were embroidered in silk and then later well-received in Europe and the Middle East. Now, a single oversized flower, a computer-generated image of a bloom, or an abstract version of a flower is on trend. Despite their already long history, you can expect floral fabrics to stick around for a long time.

#### 3. Wall coverings

Wallpapers in floral patterns also have a long history, born of fabrics of the past. Originally, wall coverings were made of fabric

because they provided not only fine details but also helped keep a room warm. Fabric walls were reserved for the wealthy while less wealthy individuals could hire a painter to create scenery on the walls — this gave rise to wall coverings. Today, floral patterns are oversized. A single bloom might be one foot by one foot. In wall tattoos, a floral stem might take up three-quarters of a wall's height and make a huge statement in the room. These images could be everything from photographic to an abstract.

#### 4. Go for faux

The techniques for making artificial flowers, or what I like to call "fauxflowers," has improved so much you often have to touch them to be sure they're not real. With the amount of time people spend away from home in the average week, artificial flowers are the perfect option, as are "fauxlawns," where the grass no longer requires water or weekly cuttings. As a result, your home can have ever-blooms and a gorgeous green lawn through only

the initial cost of the product, which can be as much as \$20 for a single stem. However, deduct the cost of watering, maintenance and replacement, and the fauxs are well priced.

#### 5. Artwork

Art is another great medium for florals. There are so many ways in which art can depict flowers, from sketches of botanicals to classic paintings, to graffiti-like works. There is no right or wrong version of florals in art. Find your style and inject it into a room. Don't forget the floor as a surface, though, and notice how traditional rugs carry a floral motif. Like art, area rugs come in a massive range of styles, from traditional to avant-garde, and are considered "art for the floor." Ultimately, a floral floor covering will make a room feel warmer and more complete than a room without a floral element.

Glen Peloso is principal designer of Peloso Alexander Interiors, national design editor of Canadian Home Trends magazine and a design expert on the Marilyn Denis Show on CTV. Contact him at [pelosoalexander.com](mailto:pelosoalexander.com), follow him on Twitter at @peloso1 or @glenandjamie, and on Facebook.



Faux flowers have gotten a bad design rap in the past, but techniques have improved so much that you'll have to touch them to make sure they're not real. ISTOCK



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CONDO LIFE



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## Find the perfect flooring solution for your condo

Refreshing the floors in your condo is one of the best investments in your home that you can make, according to Sandy Sangster, owner of Calgary Flooring Designs, a provider of high-quality flooring options in Calgary.

"When you put in a new floor, you're boosting your own enjoyment of the space — it's important to love where you live," says Sangster. "But another important aspect is that you're boosting the resale value."

Choosing flooring for a condo is different

than choosing it for a larger house, she says.

Not all kinds of flooring are created alike.

Once you decide you want to renovate your floors, the first thing to do is get expert advice, says Sangster. The trained team at Calgary Flooring Designs have in-depth knowledge about every kind of flooring the company carries. They can help customers walk through what flooring materials will work for that area of the home and what styles would be best suited for the project — all within your budget.

The team knows all the details you'll need to know to make an informed decision. For instance, they can show you the select lines of luxury vinyl tile (LVT) and luxury vinyl plank (LVP) contain nanosilver, which has antimicrobial properties and help keep the air in your home clean.

"We'll be able to work with you to make your dream condo a reality," says Sangster.

Find out more at the Calgary Flooring Designs showroom at 105G 58 Ave SE, Calgary.

**CALGARY**

# FLOORING

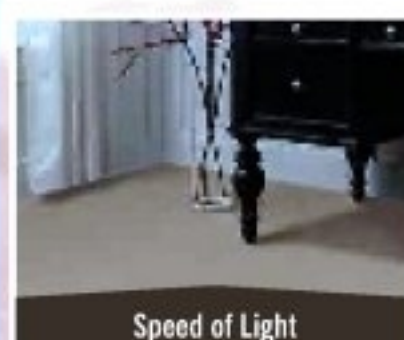
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Aaron Rodgers says he "hasn't really been affected" by his Bachelorette contestant brother Jordan saying they have an estranged relationship

## Elliott fired up to be the Flames' No. 1 goaltender

NHL

### Ex-Blue boasts strong save percentage over last five seasons

The temperatures outside are scorching, but new Flames goaltender Brian Elliott is eager to get back in the rink. After years of fending off challengers for his job in St. Louis, Elliott has big expectations entering next season as the unquestioned No. 1 in Calgary.

"This is a big one for me so I'm really looking forward to it," Elliott said when introduced to the media on Wednesday. "Sometimes you want that extra bit of summer to relax and enjoy your downtime but now I've gotten really excited to get the pads back on and ready to get back at it."

The Flames acquired the 31-year-old native of Newmarket, Ont., from St. Louis on the first night of the NHL draft for a second-round pick. Elliott and his wife were on vacation in Croatia at the time.

"When I got the news, it was 2 o'clock in the morning and I saw my phone lighting up. I didn't go back to sleep after that, I was so excited," he said.

Elliott has the second-highest save percentage in the league among goalies that have played at least 50 games over the past five seasons at .925, just behind New Jersey's Cory Schneider (.926).

Yet as well as he has performed over that five-year period in St. Louis, he never seemed to fully gain the trust of the Blues' coaching staff, who kept trying other options. He gave way to Jaroslav Halak in one playoffs, Ryan Miller was brought in to be the guy in another. Two years ago, it was Jake Allen that the Blues turned to in the post-season.

"To have that good of numbers and not get the opportunity to be the No. 1 guy, sometimes it's frustrating," Elliott said. "But I've always believed if you worked hard, put your head down and plowed through it, opportunities will pop up for you."

Last year, the Flames trio of Jonas Hiller, Karri Ramo and Joni Ortio collectively ranked last in



The Flames acquired netminder Brian Elliott for a second-round draft pick in a trade with the Blues. JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

the NHL in goaltending.

Calgary will turn to two new goalies for 2016-17. Veteran backup Chad Johnson was signed as a free agent.

Elliott was selected by 291st overall by Ottawa in the 2003 draft and has played 323 career

games (165-99-32) with the Senators, Blues and Colorado Avalanche. He said he's ready for this next chapter.

"It's talked about a lot with goaltenders. It just takes longer to develop. You have to go through those experiences just

to be able to be that consistent player and not really feel the ups and downs and the roller-coaster of a season," he said. "Just stay calm. Trust your game, trust your work and just go out and play. It takes time to learn that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### IN BRIEF

#### Sens avoid arbitration with their leading goal scorer

The Ottawa Senators have signed high-scoring winger Mike Hoffman to a four-year contract worth nearly \$21 million US, avoiding arbitration.

Hoffman hit career-highs with 29 goals, 30 assists, and 59 points last season, leading the Senators in goal-scoring for the second straight season.

Hoffman ranks 19th in the NHL with 56 goals over the past two seasons.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

#### Bouchard on to third round

Canadian Eugenie Bouchard continued her run at the Rogers Cup on Wednesday in Montreal.

For the second day in a row, Bouchard upset a higher-ranked opponent as she defeated Dominika Cibulkova 6-2, 6-0.

Cibulkova is 10th in the WTA rankings while Bouchard is 42nd.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

#### Canadian hope at men's Rogers Cup alive in Raonic

Milos Raonic downed Yen-Hsun Lu of Chinese Taipei 6-3, 6-3 on Wednesday evening in the second round of the Rogers Cup, while fellow Canadians Denis Shapovalov and Vasek Pospisil were eliminated.

Raonic, from nearby Thornhill, Ont., will face American Jared Donaldson in the third round of the tournament.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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# Day hastily prepares major title defence

## PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

### World No. 1 'under the weather,' tends to sick family

Jason Day's plan to defend his PGA Championship took a turn he wasn't expecting.

It is rare for a player considered one of the favourites in a major not to see the golf course until the day before the tournament starts, but that's how the world's No. 1-ranked player will try to handle Baltusrol Golf Club, the Springfield, N.J., course that will host this year's PGA Championship.

"I haven't played a practice round. I haven't seen the course. I don't know what it looks like," Day said Wednesday before heading out for a practice round. "I was with Doug Steffen, the head pro, last night at the champions' dinner. I went through pretty much every hole with him for about 20, 30 minutes, kind of going over all the holes. I'm going to try and touch them all today, but obviously the prep's been a little on the lighter side. So I need to come in and try to get a good, solid 18 holes in today so I kind of know where I'm going."

Day's plan had always been to take Monday off. Tuesday became a day of tending to a

## + CHARLOTTE

■ The PGA of America has no plans to move next year's championship out of Charlotte despite the North Carolina law limiting protections for LGBTQ people.

■ The tournament is scheduled for Quail Hollow, a regular spring stop on the PGA Tour.

■ The NBA made a decision to move the 2017 NBA all-star game out of Charlotte last week.

sick family and himself.

"Dash and Lucy (his children) are sick right now, and kind of Dash passed that on to me a little bit," Day said. "I'm OK. I'm fine. I'm just a little bit under the weather. Ellie (his wife) had an allergic reaction last night and had to go to the hospital. We were there until 2 o'clock or something like that. So I'm kind of running on 'E' right now. She's fine. Everything was great."

The 28-year-old Australian has eight wins in 2015 and 2016, but he hasn't had a good first round in any of the majors this year, which makes his having two top 10 finishes in them all the more impressive.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jason Day speaks to reporters on Wednesday in Springfield, N.J. SCOTT HALLERAN/GETTY IMAGES

## NFL

### Pats start prep for 4 games sans Brady

New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick acknowledged on Wednesday that Jimmy Garoppolo will have to start the first four games of the season at quarterback and said the top priority of training camp would be to get the former backup ready.

"We have finally some definition with Tom's situation," Belichick said of Tom Brady before declining to comment further on the "Deflategate" scandal that engulfed the NFL and one of its most successful franchises for 18 months.

"We have to prioritize the first part of our schedule and that'll be to get Jimmy ready to go."

Brady was suspended four games and the team was docked

\$1 million and two draft picks for what the league said was a scheme to illegally deflate the footballs used in the 2015 AFC championship game.

Moving forward means that Garoppolo will need to start against Arizona on Sept. 11, and then again against the Dolphins, Texans and Bills. Belichick refused to say how he would split up the reps in practice so that both Brady and Garoppolo can get the needed work in.

"We'll find out," he said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jimmy Garoppolo  
GETTY IMAGES

## MLB

### Dickey hoping for another turnaround

R.A. Dickey is hoping he has another late-season turnaround left in him.

Starting on short rest, the Blue Jays knuckleballer fell to 7-12 on the season with an 8-4 loss to the San Diego Padres on Wednesday in Toronto.

Dickey gave up seven runs — six earned — on four hits, including two homers, four walks and a hit batter as he dropped his third straight decision.

"I think it's only human that you question some of the methods or the selection, but at the end of the day if I've learned anything through my experience as a baseball player it's that you kind of have

to have blinders on and trust the pedigree," Dickey said. "I know it's in there and it's been there a number of years."

"I still have a third of my season left so there's reason for optimism and I'm going to roll with that."

The 41-year-old Dickey struggled through the first half of last season before turning things around down the stretch and winning eight of his last nine decisions.

The 2014 season followed a similar pattern. THE CANADIAN PRESS



R.A. Dickey  
GETTY IMAGES

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## IN BRIEF

### Strasburg back to winning ways for Washington

Stephen Strasburg shut down Cleveland for seven innings and bounced back from his only loss this season, leading the Washington Nationals to a 4-1 win over the Indians on Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Aussies top Canada in Olympic hoops tuneup

Penny Taylor scored 19 points and Liz Cambage added 16 to help Australia beat Canada 80-67 in an exhibition game Wednesday night at the University of Delaware. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Source: Dirk to get pay bump

Dirk Nowitzki has signed his contract with Dallas, and a person with knowledge of the deal says

it's worth more than the original agreement.

The 38-year-old star who has spent all 18 of his seasons with the Mavericks signed a two-year, \$50 million contract on Wednesday — \$10 million more than the deal struck before contracts could be signed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Sounders load up with Paraguayan Lodeiro

Nicolas Lodeiro, the midfielder who just helped Argentina powerhouse Boca Juniors reach the semifinals of the prestigious Copa Libertadores in South America, has signed with the Seattle Sounders as a designated player.

The 27-year-old also has 48 caps for Uruguay.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# RECIPE Shakshuka



PHOTO: MAYA VISNTEI

**Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh**  
For Metro Canada

Just when you thought you'd made every delicious dish with eggs, please meet the Shakshuka.

**Ready in**  
Prep time: 10 minutes  
Cook time: 30 minutes  
Makes: 4 servings

- Ingredients**
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
  - 1 onion, diced quite fine
  - 3 or 4 cloves garlic, minced
  - 1 tsp paprika
  - 1/2 tsp ground cumin
  - chili flakes (optional)
  - 1 can (28 oz) whole tomatoes
  - 1 Tbsp tomato paste
  - Salt and pepper
  - 6 eggs
  - 1/4 cup crumbled feta
  - Handful of chopped basil or parsley

## Directions

1. Heat the oil in a high-sided frying pan over medium heat. Add the onion and garlic and let them begin to brown. Add the paprika, cumin and a pinch of chili and stir. Let cook about 3 minutes.
2. Pour in tomatoes and tomato paste gently break them up. Allow sauce to simmer for about 20 minutes. Taste and add salt and pepper.
3. Spread the sauce evenly across the frying pan. Now crack the eggs over the sauce (I usually place five in a circle around the pan and one in the center). Cook for about 6 or 7 minutes.
4. Crumble the feta and basil or parsley over the top. Shimmy a big serving spoon under each egg to scoop them out of the pan. Serve with crusty bread and some steamed vegetables.

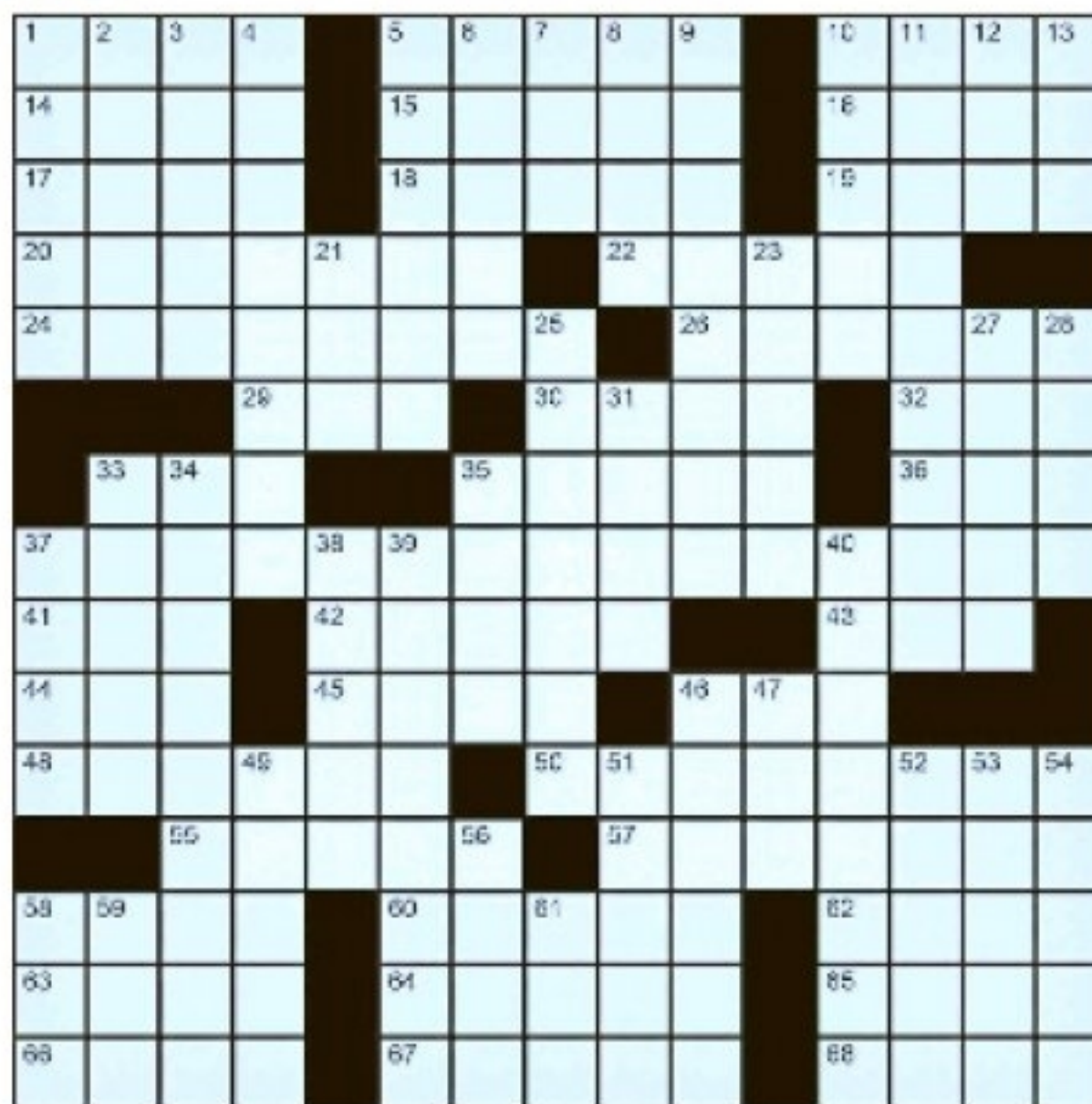
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# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

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## ACROSS

1. "\_\_\_ the Roof" by The Drifters
5. Cut-and-\_\_\_
10. Bridge
14. Unfeigned
15. Greek Myth: The huntress Artemis unintentionally slayed him
16. Ore deposit
17. Ms. Braxton
18. Submarine instrument
19. To boot
20. Call out!
22. \_\_\_ Hilfiger of fashion
24. Montreal smoked meat serving component: 2 wds.
26. Canada's 14th Prime Minister, \_\_\_ B. Pearson
29. Increases
30. Ms. Fisher of "Wedding Crashers" (2005)
32. Charlemagne's realm [acronym]
33. Outlying
35. Where Lloyd and Harry are headed in road trip comedy "Dumb and Dumber" (1994)
36. Dutch city
37. Calgary-born architect of the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Quebec
41. 'Guitar' suffix
42. Contribution to the conversation
43. These: French
44. City in Kyrgyzstan
45. Prince hit
46. Canadian actor



- Mr. Bennett
48. "Somewhere in Time" (1980) star
- Christopher's
50. Post cereal, \_\_\_ Wheat
55. Old Rome monthly calendar date
57. Consequence
58. Ballerina's skirt

60. Historic immigration site, \_\_\_ Island
62. Ancient war god
63. 'Symptom' suffix
64. Accomplish, archaically
65. Rose
66. Speed of sound, \_\_\_ 1
67. Info in sports

- articles
68. Inflates

## DOWN

1. Express
2. Stand-in
3. Small quantity
4. Village in western Saskatchewan about an hour southeast of

- Lloydminster
5. Floral arrangements
6. Bouquet beckoner
7. Job application's li'l 9-digit info
8. Perfectly: 2 wds. + letter
9. Paperwork filler-

- outer in order to participate
10. Loudly shuts the door
11. "\_\_\_ Pam" by The Beatles
12. BCs-following dates
13. Modern
21. Alsatian artist Jean
23. 1972 Billy Paul hit: "\_\_\_ Mrs. Jones"
25. Talk over
27. Richard Wagner aria: "\_\_\_ Warning"
28. Whirl
31. De-gorged the gum
33. Bob of Broadway
34. Bona fide
35. Some slitherers
37. Christian of luxury fashion
38. Compare
39. Ground liquor-ice-tasting ingredients in biscotti
40. Tim Hortons beverage now available in a bottled version in grocery stores: 2 wds.
46. Pie parts
47. Tennis term
49. Give a guarantee
51. Lift at the docks
52. Andrea \_\_\_ (1956 sinking ocean liner)
53. Alter text
54. Work stations
56. Vending machine opening
58. Glaswegian's hat
59. Theatre actress
- Ms. Hagen
61. Rural roaming realm

# ★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20  
Try to avoid disputes about money and possessions today, because they will be brief but nasty. At least they will be over quickly. Hang in there.

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21  
Tread carefully today because people's emotions are volatile! It's easy to get upset with others or suddenly have an argument. (This especially applies to close friends and partners.)

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21  
You might be doing a slow boil behind the scenes for some reason today. Do your best to just let it pass. Things will get worse if you make a big deal about them.

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23  
(June 21 to July 22)  
An argument with a friend, especially a female acquaintance, might break out today. Just remember: Patience is the antidote to anger. Remedy: Generously apply patience.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23  
Squabbles with parents, bosses and authority figures are hard to avoid today. (This includes the police.) But who needs this? Not you. Therefore, zip thy lip.

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23  
Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because they will quickly deteriorate into a nasty argument. Forewarned is forearmed.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23  
This is not an ideal day to discuss inheritances or how to divide or share something, because it will be tough to reach an agreement. Postpone this discussion for another day.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22  
With Mars in your sign now, you are feisty! (Scorpio is never a wimp.) Use diplomacy and patience when dealing with partners and close friends — for the sake of everyone.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21  
An argument with someone at work might break out today. Remember your long-term objective, which is that you want to get along with these people in the future, right? Connect the dots.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20  
Parents will have to be patient with children today, because hissy fits and meltdowns are likely. Romantic partners must be patient with each other as well.

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19  
Avoid domestic arguments today. Get out of the house and wait till this volatile influence passes. Oy!

**Pisces**  
Feb. 20 - March 20  
Discussions with siblings, relatives and neighbours could be challenging today, because someone is looking for a fight. Do what you can to keep the peace and make your life easier.

## CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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